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THE TV-TS

Tapestry

the journal for persons interested in crossdressing & transsexualism

ON DIGNITY AND SELF-VALIDATION

UPDATED DIRECTORY OF ORGANIZATIONS

COMING EVENTS
LETTERS
EDITORIALS
PERSONAL LISTINGS

CONVENTIONS
The Provincetown Experience
The Chicago Experience

SPECIAL REPORT:
Health Care and the Transsexual

ISSUE 49

Also: More on Religion • More on the 'Fashion Argument' • Playing the Transsexual Game • The Married Transvestite • Dressing for Sensual Appeal • Telling the Children • On Being and Surviving • and more!

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SPECIAL THANKS - INDIVIDUALS: Niela Miller, Veronica Brown, Billi Dwyer, Helen Tibbetts, Bette Johnson, Kimberly Ng

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1.) The TV-TS Tapeatry Journal (a.k.a. 'The Tapestry') will support any individual, organization, or commercial enterprise that provides a valid service to the CD/TS/AN Community, and ia not unethical, illegal or dangerous.

2.) Although sexually oriented organizations and services do provide a service and will be supported, it is underatood that the Tapeatry is intended to be neutral and acceptable to all. Therefore no sexually oriented ads, photos, or articlea will be accepted for publication in the Tapeatry.

3.) Single copies of the Tapestry will be provided free of charge to any non-profit organization or information distribution center. In exchange the Tapestry expects to receive any available newaletters, and permission to reprint any articlea and information that is of interest and relevant to all. (The Tapeatry will print only that information which will not endanger the security of the organization or ita members, and will reflect favorably upon the organization.)

4.) The Tapestry will accept advertising and diatribute information for non-profit organizations free of charge.

5.) The Tapestry will accept advertiaing from all legitimate commercial enterpriaes. Also, advertiaing will be accepted and information diatributed free of charge on a reciprocal basia.

6.) Individual copiea of the TV/TS Tapeatry are $10.00

7.) Subacription rates for the Tapeatry: Librariea and Helping Profeaaionala $20.00 ($30.00 lat claaa), Regular Subacription $30.00, lat Claas Poatage, Canada, Overaeaa (aurface) $40.00, Overaeaa (air) $50.00 (U.S. Funda) ($10.00 of each subacription will be rebated to the non-profit organization of the aubacriber's choice.)

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COVER: Pamela Van Buren, (NY-0253). Member Tiffany Club, TV Entertainers.
Participant: Fantasia Fair, awarded 'Miss Femininity'.
Portrait credit: Mariette Pathy Allen, 211 C.P.W., NYC, NY 10024

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EDITORIAL

. . . . SELF-VALIDATION
by
Merissa Sherrill Lynn

'Self-validation' is the theme for I.F.G.E.'s convention in March.

This convention could be a very important event in the history of the TV/TS Community. It marks the first time that the organizations and individual members of the Community have come together to work together for the benefit of all. Why did we choose 'self-validation' as the Convention's theme? Simple. Without it, we'll never accomplish anything.

What does self-validation mean? It means acknowledging ourselves as a valid Community ... a Community with an identity all its own. It means self-reliance ... acknowledging that no one is going to do our job for us, therefore we must do it ourselves. It means developing our own set of objectives ... knowing what we want and having the courage to fight for it, for no one is going to give us what we want without a fight. We want understanding and respect? We must fight for it. We want dignity and self-respect? We must fight for it. We want the power to change things for the better? We must fight for it. We must be our own teachers, and our own workers. We must develop our own sense of pride, of dignity, and of self-respect. The I.F.G.E. convention is an opportunity (not a promise) to do just that.

In the past we have had our private social outings and our independently sponsored 'growth experiences' which have been beneficial to individuals and individual organizations, but - have failed to pull us together as a Community. The I.F.G.E. convention is a chance to do just that. We have coat-tailed on other conventions (AASECT/SSSS, HBGDA, etc.) but they were for the helping professionals, not for us. The I.F.G.E. convention is for us, the patient, not them, the doctors. It is a chance for us to tell them who and what we are and what is good for us ... not the other way around. But, in order for us to do that we must know who and what we are, and what's good for us ... which brings us back to 'self-validation'.

'Self-validation' awakens memories of my college days 20+ years ago, memories of the Gay Liberation Front and Black Power movement.

I remember young slender-waisted men with bent wrists and hips pressed forward, gathering groups around them talking to whoever would listen. They were not pretending to be what they were not. They were not playing social charades, pretending to be like everyone else in order to be accepted by others. They were not asking for acceptance and they were not hiding. Instead, they were offering those of us who would listen a better understanding

of the nature of their existence, and of their lifestyle. They were talking of pride and self-respect, and reaching out to others who may be gay to teach them pride and self-respect. They were offering help to people having difficulty accepting them. They were talking of unifying their people, and fighting for their rights as human beings. They were talking of political clout, and fighting for their freedom, fighting for their right to be who and what they were, and as such be contributing members of American society.

The Gay Community has come a long way since then.

I remember young black men and women with angry faces and clenched fists shaking our society by its racist roots. They were screaming for black power, singing "we shall overcome", and "black is beautiful." They were talking of taking responsibility for their own lives, lives that have been dominated by other people for hundreds of years. They were talking of fighting for their basic rights as human beings - and for their future. They were proclaiming their pride, their power, and their freedom.

The Black Community has come a long way since then.

How far have we come?

I remember Lee Brewster, founder of the Queen's Liberation Front, walking hand in hand with her sisters during the Gay Pride marches of the sixties. She had an impact on decriminalizing cross-dressing in public, but she walked for the Gay Community, not our Community. Since then she has given up the fight in favor of the commercial arena, and now we have no political activists. I remember Joanna Clark forming the Transsexual Rights Committee, and using the law to fight for justice for transsexuals. She never received the Community-wide support she needed, and there is no one putting up an effective fight for justice for anyone. I also remember Virginia Prince and her 30-year struggle to help those crossdressers who were not gay or transsexual. Even with her limited support and success, she managed to plant the seeds for non-profit organizations world-wide. We now have dozens of organizations, each espousing their own philosophies and objectives, and no one working for the good of the greater whole. Hopefully the I.F.G.E. Convention will change that.

We have a job to do -- let's do it.

See you in Chicago in March.

Marian L. Pyle

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COMING EVENTS

CALENDAR OF
MAJOR EVENTS 1986 - '87

September 19 - 21, 1986: Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Outing
October 16 - 20, 1986: Tiffany Wives Support Group Outing, P-town
October 17 - 26, 1986: 12th annual Fantasia Fair, P-town
October 22 - 26, 1986: Tri-Ess (National) "Holiday En Femme", San Francisco
March 5 - 9, 1987: 1st annual International Convention sponsored by the International Foundation for Gender Education, Chicago

NEW ENGLAND

** TIFFANY CLUB **
(Open, non-sexual) Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 (617) 358-2305
Open Rap Group: Each Tuesday, 8 - 11 p.m.
Open Meetings: Casual get-togethers 7pm each Saturday
Wives Support Group: First Friday each month
Educational Programs: Topics of specific interests (legal, medical, political, etc). irregularly scheduled
Personal Improvement Classes: (make-up, comportment, wardrobe, etc.) irregularly scheduled
Sundays: Evenings out on the town. Patricia Anne Ashley, organizer
Parties: Usually 3rd Saturday each month
Couples' P-town Outing: October 16 - 20, 1986
Cross-dressers' Convention, P-town: May 26 - June 1, 1987

** OUTREACH INSTITUTE **
(Referral, Educational) Box 386 Kenmore Sq, Boston, MA 02215
Fantasia Fair: 9-day educational convention in Provincetown, Oct. 17 - 26

** INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION **
FOR GENDER EDUCATION
P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 617-358-2305
COMING TOGETHER, WORKING TO-TOGETHER: 1ST Annual international convention serving the TV/TS Community. Chicago, March 5 - 9, 1987

** F.A.C.T. **
OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND
(Transsexual support) Karen Aldrich, P.O. Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA 02747
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** TRANSSEXUAL **
SOCIAL ASSOCIATION
(Rhode Island, Transsexual Support) T.S.A., P.O. Box 5753, Weybosset Hill Station, Providence, R.I. 02903
Meetings: Irregularly scheduled

** XX (TWENTY) CLUB **
(Connecticut, transsexual support) XX Club, Box 6070 Sta. 'A', Hartford, CT 06106 (203)522-2646
Meetings: 2pm the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month.

** CONN. GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Connecticut, Open, non-sexual) Box 744, Branford, CT 06405
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Saturday each month at Commercial Street West Cafe, 458 Wethersfield Ave, Hartford, CT.

NEW YORK

** NYC GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Open, non-sexual) Muriel Olive, Penthouse B, 157 W 57th St., NYC, NY 10019 (212) 582-6823
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month, 435 5th Ave, 3rd floor (between 38th & 39th Sts)

** JOYCE DEWHURST **
BETTER LIVING INSTITUTE
(NYC, open, parties, special programs) B.L.I., c/o Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372 (212) 335-3048
Spring Pocono Fantasy Festival: May 15 - 17, 1987
Fall Pocono Fantasy Festival: September 19 - 21, 1986

** LEE'S MARDI GRAS **
(Social) Lee's Mardi Gras , 565 10th Ave., NYC, NY 10036 212-947-7773
Parties: 1986-'87 schedule not available

** EULENSPIEGEL SOCIETY **
(NYC, For those with S/M & B/D fantasies) The Eulenspiegel Society, Box 2783 Grand Central Sta., NYC, NY 10163 (212) 477-6588
Functions: Frequent events specifically oriented for the TV. Inquire for times & location.

** AS A WOMAN **
(NYC, Open, Non-sexual) c/o B. Fortune, Box 369, Brooklyn, NY 11235 718-852-4290
Meetings: First Saturday of each month, at 208 West 13th St., NY

** NY TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT **
(Support for TSs, their spouses or friends) Call: Dr. Wollman, 718-449-2414
Meetings: Held noon on a Saturday. Additional information unavailable.

** LONG ISLAND SOCIAL CLUB **
(Open, non-sexual) Kay & Ursula Kwarta, 50 Sunny Rd, St. James, NY 11780 (516) 584-7736
Meetings: 1st Saturday of each month

** CHI DELTA MU (TRI ESS) **
(Metro NY, Closed, heterosexual) L. Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772
Meetings: 2nd Saturday of each month, locations vary.

** TV ENTERTAINERS GROUP **
(Open, non-sexual) TV Entertainers, 266 Jefferson St, Albany, NY 12210 518-463-7774
Meetings: 7 p.m. the 2nd Saturday each month at 226 Jefferson St., Albany, NY

** THE BUTTERFLY GROUP **
(Western NY, Open, Non-sexual) PO Box 7161, Endicott, NY 13760, Shannon Michaels, Pres. 607-798-8033
Open Meetings: 2nd Friday and 4th Saturday each month

** 'EON' **
(Open, non-sexual) Eon, PO Box 6293, Camillus, NY 13031
Meetings: Inquire for time and location
Wives Support Group: Inquire for time & location

** F.A.C.T. - NIAGARA **
(Transsexual support, W. NY) Call: Joan, 544-4653
Meetings: 4th Friday each month in the parish hall of All Saints Anglican Church at the intersection of King and Queen streets.

NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

** PHI CHAPTER **
(South NJ, SE PA, N DE, NE MD, Open, Non-Sexual) c/o W. Beeman, P.O. Box 4128, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
Meetings: 4th Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun)
Wives & Lovers: Irregularly scheduled events for members and their spouses.

** NORTHERN NJ GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Northern NJ, Open, non-sexual) E. Malley, P.O. Box 9034, Morristown, NJ 07960
Meetings: 1st Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun)

** NORTHERN NJ SOCIAL GROUP **
(Open, non-sexual) L. Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772
Meetings: last Saturday of each month

** TRANSPITT **
(Social, open, non-sexual) Transpitt, PO Box 59406, Pittsburgh, PA 15211
Meetings: the 3rd Saturday of each odd-numbered month.

MID-ATLANTIC

** DELTA CHI CHAPTER **
(Baltimore - DC, open non-sexual) Sandy Machin, Box 11254, Lincolnia Sta., Alexandria VA 22312
Meetings: 1st Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun)

** BUTTERFLY COUPLES **
OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA
(Married couples support) c/o Box 3234, Manassas, VA 22110
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** NORFOLK TS GROUP **
(Transsexual support) Donna Johnston, Box 1923, Norfolk, VA 23501
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** MY CHOICE **
(Baltimore, Transsexual support) Kathy Stevens, 1417 McHenry St, Baltimore, MD 21223
Meetings: 2nd Friday each month

** ACADEMY AWARDS **
(Baltimore - Wash. DC, Theatrical Drag) c/o B.A. Lind, Box 11254, Alexandria, VA 22312
Functions: Inquire for events, times, and locations

** BALT.-DC GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Baltimore - Wash. DC, open non-sexual) R. Lewis, P.O. Box 50724, Washington, DC 20004
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month (Sep-Jun). Subject to change.

** JANUS/DC **
(Washington DC, Transsexual Support) Janus/DC Inc., 5715 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20011 Gene Baker, Advisor, Marty Malin, President
Meetings: 4th Thursday each month

SOUTHEAST-SOUTH

** THE ELITE TV CO. **
(Georgia, Open) Gigi Grant, P.O. Box 47686, Atlanta, GA 30362
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** MONTGOMERY FOUNDATION, INC. **
(Atlanta, Transsexual Support) The Montgomery Foundation Inc., PO Box 33311, Decatur, GA 30033
Meetings: Twice a month. Inquire for times and locations

** SERENITY **
(Open, non-sexual) Nikki Bee, Box 307, Hollywood, FL 33022
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month at the Metropolitan Community Church, 330 S.W. 27th St., Ft. Lauderdale, FL

** BUTTERNUT BELLES (AND GUYS) **
(Open) Butternut Belles, Box 3585, Knoxville, TN 37917 call Wendy 524-1629, 7-9 p.m.
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** BOULTON & PARK **
CULTURAL SOCIETY
(Texas, Open, Non-sexual) Boulton & Park Society, c/o Ms Mary Frances Williams, Box 169652, San Antonio, TX 78280-3252
Meetings: 3rd Saturday each month

** GENDER DYSPHORIA CENTER **
(Galveston, transsexual support) Alice (713) 763-6227
Meetings: 1st Saturday each month except July, August & September

MIDWEST

** WINDY CITY GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Chicago, open non-sexual) Sharon Renee Hart, Box 2312, Chicago IL 60690 (312) 472-4518
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday of every month

** CHI CHAPTER (TRI ESS) **
(Illinois, closed heterosexual) Naomi Owen, President, P.O. Box 342, Chicago, IL 60690
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month. Wives and girlfriends support group, ethnic night, summer white party, picnic, awards banquet, christmas party, and co-sponsor "Be All You Want To Be' Weekend.

** CROSSROADS CHAPTER **
(Michigan, open non-sexual) Crossroads Chapter, Box 196, Garden City, MI 48135
Meetings: Usually 1st Saturday each month, but double-check for time and location

** NATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ** ORGANIZATION & SUPPORT GROUP
(Support for Gender Dysphoric persons regardless of color) N.G.D.O., c/o Justina Williams, Box 02732, Detroit, MI 48202 313-842-5258
Meetings: G.D. Support Group, Crossdressers Support Group, Parent Support Group, Bible Reading Group. Time and locations unavailable

** PARADISE CLUB **
(Ohio, open non-sexual) Paradise Club, Box 29564, Parma, OH 44129
Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each even numbered month.

** GENESIS **
(Open, non-sexual) Genesis, PO Box 954, Elyria, OH 44036
Meetings: 2nd Saturday of each month

** CROSS-PORT **
(Cincinnati, Open, Non-sexual) Cross-Port, 2020 "B" Beechmont Ave, P.O. Box 150, Cincinnati, OH 45230 ATTN: HEATHER
Meetings: 3rd Thursday of each month

** WISCONSIN NETWORK **
(Open to gay and bi- men and women as well as TVs and TSs, non-sexual) Dee Dailey, P.O. Box 632, Waukesha, WI 53187 (414) 542-5735
Meetings: 4th Wednesday of each month

** ST. LOUIS GATEWAY FEMMES **
(Open, non-sexual) P.O. Box 1262, St. Louis, MO 63188
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** CITY OF LAKES **
CROSSDRESSERS' CLUB
(Open, Non-sexual) CLCC, c/o A.Y. Cowell, 3917 France Ave., South Minneapolis, MN 55416 612-920-3316
Meetings: Inquire for time and location

INTER-MOUNTAIN

** THE GENDER IDENTITY CENTER ** OF COLORADO, INC.
(Association, affiliation, information and education serving the cross-dresser and gender conflicted and their significant others) GIC, 37115 W. 32nd Ave, P.O. Box 11563, Denver, CO 80211, 303-458-5378
Monday: 7:00 PM Open Rap
Alternate Tuesdays: 7:30 PM TAKOTS (TeenAge Kits of T's) Open Rap
1st & 3rd Wednesday: 7:30 PM Spouses Rap Group
Last Wednesday: 5:30 PM Staff Meeting
Thursday: 10:00 AM Open Rap
Thursday: 7:00 PM Women in Transition
Saturday: 10:00 AM Open Rap
Saturday: 12:00 Noon F-M Open Rap
TV Socials: By invitation
Parents' Group: By special arrangement
Workshops: Every other month throughout the year
Seminars: Helping Professionals & Significant Others, offered on a Saturday in February, and again in September
JUNE 1987: GIC sponsored trip to HBIGDA Symposium in Sweden, and tour of Scandinavian gender clinics.

** G.I.C. OF SOUTHERN COLORADO **
GIC, P.O. Box 5309, Pueblo, CO 81002
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

SOUTHWEST

** A ROSE **
(Open, non-sexual, Phoenix) c/o Cindy Ann Mackenzie, P.O. Box 2943, Glendale, AZ 85301
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** TRANSITION CLUB **
(Nevada, open, non-sexual) c/o TC Onekea, Box 42454, Las Vegas, NV 89116 731-5814 (ask for TC)
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

CALIFORNIA

** SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF ** (TRI ESS)
(Chapters nation-wide, closed, heterosexual) Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275
Alpha Chapter: (Los Angeles) Inquire
Sigma Delta Chapter: (San Diego) Inquire
Holiday en Femme: Weekend outing for members of Tri-Ess only. San Francisco, October 22-26.

** CHIC (CROSSDRESSER ** HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB)
(Closed, heterosexual) CHIC, Box 562, Duarte, CA 91010 (213)456-6511
Meetings: Last Saturday of each month (If a holiday, 3rd Saturday)

** SHANGRI-LA CLUB **
(National membership, open non-sexual) Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713
Scyros Chapter: 1st Saturday of each month
Shangri-La '87: April 14-19, 1987
Shangri-La West: July 3-6, 1987

** NEUTRAL CORNER **
(Open non-sexual) W. Thomas, Box 99732, San Diego, CA 92109
Meetings: Inquire first

** PACIFIC CENTER **
(Community Services for sexual minorities) P.O. Box 908, Berkeley, CA 94701 (408) 841-6224
Meetings: Rap sessions the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month
Special Topic or Speaker: Last Friday of each month

** RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION **
(Open, non-sexual) Rainbow Gender Association, P.O. Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170
Meetings: 1st and 3rd Friday of each month at New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose

** SANTA ROSA GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Open, non-sexual) 707-526-2500
Meetings: 1st Friday and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2525 Cleveland Ave.

** SACRAMENTO GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Open, non-sexual) Bonnie Goodwin, Box 38918, Sacramento, CA 95838
Meetings: 2nd Friday of each month

** GENDER IDENTITY ANONYMOUS **
(Transgender support) 415-467- 5285 or 415-431-1221 (days)
Meetings: Science of Mind Room at 3255 Balboa St., San Francisco. Every Thursday

FEMALE TO MALE TRANSSEXUAL GROUP
(Support for F-M TSs) The Billy DeFrank Community Center, 86 Keyes Ts., San Jose, CA (408) 293-4525
Meetings: Every Wednesday 7-9 pm

** EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL **
(ETVC)
(San Francisco, Open, Non-sexual) Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101
Socials: Last Thursday of each month
Significant Others Support Group: 1st Tuesday each month
Other Events: Socials, poker parties, dinners, etc. irregularly scheduled. Inquire.

** SOCIETY OF JANUS **
- SACRAMENTO GROUP
(For persons interested in B&D) Society of Janus - Sacramento Group, c/o P.O. Box 6794, San Francisco, CA 94101
Meetings: Schedule not available

NORTHWEST, HAWAII

** NORTHWEST GENDER ALLIANCE **
(Open, non-sexual, Box 13173, Portland, OR 97213
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** PRIDE - OREGON **
(Transsexual Support) c/o Tiffany Wonder, 9040 "C" SW Oleson Rd #6, Portland, OR 97223-6852 503-244-7171
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** SALMACIS **
SHE-MALE INFORMATION NETWORK
(West Coast Drag Events)
(Drag) Leslie-Shawn, c/o Salmacis, Dept. G, Box 1604, Eugene, OR 97440-1604
Events:
Salmacis Society Workshop: 5-day workshop in Eugene, OR. Theme: costuming, deportment, posture, make-up & personality projection. Inquire for details.

** EMERALD CITY **
(Open, non-sexual) Emerald City, Box 31318, Seattle, WA 98103
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** SEATTLE COUNSELING SERVICE **
(TV/TS support group, non-sexual) Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122
Meetings: Every Friday 8-10 p.m.

SEATTLE TV/TS SUPPORT GROUP
(Open) Seattle Counseling Service, 1505 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122 206-329-8737
Meeting: Every Friday, 8 - 10 p.m.

** SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER **
(Hawaii) 2139 Kuhio Ave, Honolulu, HI 96813 926-1000
Meetings: Discussion group, 7:30, every Tuesday

CANADA

** TRANSVESTITES AU MONTREAL **
(TAM)
(Open, non-sexual) CP 1164 Succ H, Montreal, Que Can H3G-2N1 514-352-7481
Meetings: 2nd Saturday 2:00pm, and 4th Thursday 7:30pm.

** QUEBEC **
TRANSSEXUAL AID, INC.
(Transsexual support, French speaking) Viviane Audrey, C.P. 691, Mont-Royal Quebec, Canada H3P-3E4
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** FACT **
(FEDERATION OF AMERICAN AND CANADIAN TRANSSEXUALS)
FACT, Box 291, Sta. 'A', Hamilton Ont Can L8N-3C8 416-539-7884
Meetings: 2nd Friday of each month, visitors welcome

** FACT - TORONTO **
(Transsexual Support) FACT-Toronto, P.O. Box 882, Station 'F', Toronto, ON CAN M4Y 2N9 416-598-0433
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

** METAMORPHOSIS **
MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION
(Support for the F-M transsexual) Box 5963, Sta. 'A', Toronto Ont Can M5W-1P4
Meetings: Inquire for time & location
3rd Annual General Meeting: Saturday, April 26, 1986, 2 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. (Inquire for location.

** ALBERTA TV-TS CONTACT CLUB **
(Calgary, Open) Alberta TV & TS Contact Club, P.O. Box 4667 Stn. C, Calgary AL CAN T2T 5P1
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

GREAT BRITAIN

** BEAUMONT SOCIETY **
(Closed, heterosexual) Beaumont Society, Box 3084, London England WC1N-3XX
London: First Wednesday each month
Brighton: First Saturday each month
Woking: Inquire for time and location
Woodford Green: Inquire for time and location
King's Langley: Third Saturday each month
Braintree: Third Wednesday each month
Harlow: Practically any time - by arrangement
Cambridge: Second Saturday each month
Luton: Every Saturday
Eye: Every Tuesday

BEAUMONT ANNUAL RE-UNION WEEKEND: October 31 - November 2, 1986. Beaumont members only.

** SHAFT **
(SELF HELP ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSSEXUALS)
(Transsexual support, non-sexual) SHAFT, 46 Liddell Way, South Ascot, Berkshire, England SL5-9UX
Meetings: Inquire for time & location

** FRIEND MERSEYSIDE **
(Closed, heterosexual) 14 Colquitt St., Liverpool, L1-4DI England (051)708-0234
Meetings: Fridays 8pm onwards

** THE TV/TS SOCIAL GROUP **
(Open, non-sexual) 274 Upper St., Islington, London N.1. England 01-359-4868 (Fri, Sat, Sun 8-10pm)
Meetings: Every Saturday and Sunday from 7:30 to 11:00pm, at the above address

** SCOTTISH TV/TS GROUP **
(Open, non-sexual) Scottish TV/TS Group, c/o SHRG 58a Broughton St., Edinburgh, EH1 35A Scotland (031) 556-4049
Meetings: Last Saturday each month

EUROPE

** TRANS-CCL **
(France, support for sexual minorities) Rev. Joseph Douce, Centre du Christ Liberateur, Minorites Sexuelles, TRANS-CCL, 3 bis, rue Clairaut, 75017 Paris - France (1) 226-7048 (also, help line Mon. 8-10pm [1] 627-4936) (Rev. Douce speaks English)
Meetings: 8pm, 2nd Tuesday of each month
Dinner: 5th Saturday of the month (4 times a year)

** ASSOCIATION BEAUMONT ** CONTINENTALE
(France, closed membership, heterosexual) Gaby Linsig, 2 Rue des Charpentiers, 68270 Wittenheim, France
Meetings: Schedule not available

** F.P.E. **
(Denmark, closed membership, heterosexual) M.A. Postboks 192, DK2600, Glostrup, Denmark (do not put F.P.E. on envelope)
Meetings: Schedule not available

** FEMME TRAVESTIE **
(Switzerland, inquire for membership qualifications) Femme Travestie, 8023 Zurich, Postfach 6788, Switzerland
Meetings: Schedule not available, but very active

FAR EAST, AUSTRALIA

** ELIZABETH CLUB **
(Japan, open) Ant Trading Co., Sakata Bldg, 1-12 Iwamoto-Cho Kanda, Chiuoda-Ku, Tokyo 101, Japan
Meetings: No schedule available. Private facilities in Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya

** SEAHORSE CLUB **
(Australia, affiliated with England's Beaumont Society)
Seahorse Victoria (Melbourne) GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001 Australia
Social Evenings: 2nd Saturday of each month
The Seahorse Club of Australia (Sydney) Box R341, Royal Exchange, Sydney 2000, Australia - Meetings: Last Friday of each month
National Seahorse Club of Australia (Adelaide) write: Lynda Ailion, P.O. Box 89, Norwood, South Australia 5067 - meeting schedule unavailable

** HEDESTHIA **
(New Zealand, affiliated with England's Beaumont Society) Ms J.F. Gall (National Secretary), Hedesthia Central, P.O. Box 78-026, Grey Lynn, Auckland 2 New Zealand
Meetings: Schedule unavailable

MISCELLANEOUS

** INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION ** FOR GENDER EDUCATION'S 1ST ANNUAL CONVENTION:
COMING TOGETHER-WORKING TOGETHER
'Coming Together', c/o I.F.G.E., P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 617-358-2305
March 4 - 9, 1987: 'Coming Together' is a convention sponsored by the TV/TS Community for the Community and those persons affected by that Community. The objectives are to promote self-validation and self-respect, develop a sense of togetherness, and provide an in-depth educational opportunity.

** TIFFANY'S ANNUAL ** PROVINCETOWN OUTING
(Cape Cod, open non-sexual) The Tiffany Club, P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA., 01778 (617)358-5575
Traditionally held the week after Memorial Day: Annual 3 to 6 day event held each Spring in Provincetown, MA. This is the 'Club Med Vacation' for Crossdressers and friends. There are unlimited activities available in a friendly sea-side community.

** TAPESTRY PUBLICATIONS ** and NACD INC. ANNUAL CONVENTION
(Provincetown, Cape Cod) Tapestry, PO Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 617-358-5575
Held concurrently with Tiffany's P-town Outing: The Convention is for a) all persons interested in the development of the 'Tapestry' as an effective outreach tool and unifying factor for the TV-TS Community, and b) NACD Inc., the TV-TS Community's own investment corporation.

**THE 'BE ALL YOU WANT TO BE' ** WEEKEND
(Michigan, for members of Crossroads Chapter, Chi Chapter, Paradise Club, TransPitt, Genesis) Naomi Owen, P.O. Box 342, Chicago, IL 60690
Traditionally held the 2nd weekend of June: An annual weekend outing held in early June in Michigan. The outing has a schedule of events that includes a legal seminar, a behavior seminar, a fashion clinic, etc.

** SPRING FLING IN CHICAGO ** NATIONAL GGA CONVENTION
(Chicago, Open, Non-sexual) Sharon Hart, PO Box 2312, Chicago, IL 60690 312-472-4518
April-May: Annual 5-day conference sponsored by the Windy City Gender Alliance.

** SHANGRI-LA **
(open, non-sexual) Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713
June-July: Annual 3-day event held in Stallion Spring, California (Next year's dates are June 27-29)
April: Annual 6-day event usually held the 3rd week of April in Biloxi, MS on the beach 85 miles from exciting New Orleans

** JOYCE DEWHURST'S **
POCONOS FANTASY WEEKEND
Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76th St., Jackson Heights, NY 11372 718-335-3048
Traditionally held the 3rd Weekend of May, and the 2nd Weekend of September: Annual 3-day outings in the picturesque Poconos mountains of Pennsylvania.

** TIFFANY CLUB **
WIVES SUPPORT GROUP
PROVINCETOWN OUTING
(Cape Cod, non-sexual, Male-Female Couples Only) Tiffany Club Wives Support Group, PO Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 617-358-5575
October 16-20, 1986: Annual outing designed for couples in established relationships.

** TRI-ESS (NATIONAL) **
"HOLIDAY EN FEMME"
(Closed, Tri Ess members only) c/o Carol Beecroft, P.O. Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275
October 22-26, 1986: Annual outing for members of Tri Ess. San Francisco.

** FANTASIA FAIR **
(Cape Cod, Open, Non-sexual) Eve Goodwin, Dept FF, Box 368 Kenmore Station, Boston, MA 02215
October 17 - 26, 1986: Annual 9-day event held each Fall in Provincetown, MA. F/F offers a wide selection of educational, social, and outdoor activities for all participants.
October 17 - 19: Special Weekend program, "Releasing the Woman Within"

** BEAUMONT SOCIETY **
ANNUAL RE-UNION WEEKEND
(Closed, for members of Beaumont) B.S. Pearl (S494), BM Box 3084, London WC1N 3XX
October 31 - November 2, 1986: Annual outing for members of Beaumont Society.

TAPESTRY MAILBAG

ABOUT PHILIP SALEM OF N.A.T.T.C.S.

Dear Tapestry,

I am a pre-op transsexual. I live in a small town in Kansas where just about everyone knows my business, but for the most part people are fairly gentle - and the rent is cheap.

I heard a lot about the North American Transvestite/Transsexual Contact Service, and the inside dope was that Philip Salem could help me get what I wanted most badly ... reassignment surgery.

I reached Philip, the executive director of the N.A.T.T.C.S., on a Saturday, and took him completely by surprise. He was a precision, no-nonsense guy, a former female impersonator, and a Jew from NYC's Hell's Kitchen. I never met a NYC Jew before, and he seemed to operate on a very different plain than the rest of us. He told me he would meet me at 6 pm, and he met me exactly at 6 pm.

Suddenly I was accosted by two Latin men. I really didn't know what was going on but Philip was fuming. He intimidated the men with his boisterous voice and his command of Spanish. I was very naive, and learned later these men wanted more from me than money or sex. Then I got a Philip Salem lecturette. I seemed to get a lot of Philip Salem lecturettes, but I now realize that he may have saved my life.

Here I was, a hick from Kansas with a savvy, street-smart NYC Jew from Hell's Kitchen. If Seattle freaked me, NYC must be real scary. Anyhow, Philip took me to meet a TV who was very sweet and kind, not maniacal like Philip. She told me that if I do things Philip's way, I would get what I want.

Philip scared me. Yes, he was nice to me and showed me the highlights of Seattle, but he acted like a boot sergeant and seemed so dogmatic. Now that I'm back in Kansas, I realize his

plight. He is the intermediary for many people like me and he can't afford screw-ups. Otherwise, Ina Rubin would have his head. Let's face it, the world I inhabit is filled with a lot of strange people, and Philip wants no part of that world. He wants to minimize risks because he knows that admirers of TVs, whether they be men or women, are scared of situations which would cause them more grief.

Nobody wants unnecessary problems and Philip Salem lives with that concept. I found his style unnerving, but I felt he would always come through for anybody, as long as they listened to him. No one wants to be castigated as a screw-up, and Philip can really wallop you with his tongue, but he delivers. Since we live in a world where so many people are both screw-ups and do not deliver, I admire him.

Philip is an angry person, and I can understand why. Everybody tells him to continue the Contact Service, now in its 6th year, and the poor guy just cannot handle it with all the pressures. I don't know if anyone else could even attempt to do what he tries to do. Their storehouse has over 100,000 letters. I've seen them, and it's overwhelming.

My advice to people when they call the N.A.T.T.C.S. is not to be vague. That is Philip's Achilles heel. What Philip wants is to build a networking system that works. I would imagine he sees himself like a great coach, ala Bobby Knight, and expects every American pre-op to go clean and straight and help build a lasting movement. As the AIDS situation exacerbates, he may get his wish.

- Carla Jones (KS)

Dear Editor,

Congratulations on a very precious publication. In particular, the editorial in issue #48, "The Fashion Argument", written by Merissa Sherrill Lynn, deserves special praise.

Part of Merissa's message was that we should not apologize to others for being what we are. Nor should we justify our inclinations by preferring various reasons for what we are, some of which are either false, or mere rationalizations. (After all, how many crossdressers, as young boys, were really dressed as girls by our mothers or aunts?)

All of us are entitled to rights, by virtue of being alive, by merely being human. Dressing in public will offend some people, and there is nothing that any of us can do to change that. I am sorry for those that I offend, and wish that it weren't so, but since I do have a right to dress as I wish, I don't see why I should apologize for offending them.

But, if we expect to be tolerated when we are being ourselves, it follows that we should also be tolerant and understanding of others who don't perfectly fit the mold society has cast. Many groups come to mind - poor people, racial minorities, handicapped, gays - and surely there are hundreds of other groups. Maybe that's why God made transvestites, so that we might better understand and support others that don't easily fit the "normal" mold.

As transvestites, we must respect ourselves, and we should respect others also. We should not always fear what others will think. Naturally, I would prefer to always pass, but I know that sometimes I don't. Yet that does not, and should not prevent me from dressing in public, because it is my right to do so. After all, each time one of us fails to pass, we none-the-less educate those very eyes that pierce our veil of makeup. If we conduct ourselves properly when read, with feminine dignity rather than cowardice, then our misfortune will at least have the silver lining of making it that much easier for the next crossdresser that ventures out in public.

Sincerely,

Cindi J., Dallas, TX

NEW GROUP IN ARIZONA

Dear Editor,

This letter is an attempt to say how much I enjoyed being with such a fine group of people at P-town. The ladies with the outing were extremely social in every respect. The local people in P-town were helpful in anything I seemed to need. The shopkeepers were helpful in finding anything from the right size to the right item. The food was excellent. It was both prepared and served well. The outing made me feel like a lady at all times. It was a fantasy experience that happened.

My thanks again for the support, understanding, and just plain fun. I would like to thank each person by name who has become special to me, but for lack of space and fear of omitting one name, I'll pass. The list would include many local people. In conclusion, my thanks and love to all.

If I may, I would like to plug a new group in Phoenix, Arizona. Their name is 'A ROSE'. They are a non-sexual support group for TVs, wives, friends, and relatives interested in transvestism and related activities. They can be reached by contacting Cindy Ann Mackenzie c/o Box 2943, Glendale, AZ 85301-2943.

Keep up the good work with 'Tapestry'. It is a much-needed magazine.

- Cindy M. (AZ-0767)

Dear Editor,

I'm sitting in front of my fireplace wearing a luxurious pink peignoir and pretty pink scuffies, reading the Tapestry, and had to get off a few lines to you.

Last week while at a bookstore to purchase one of my favorite magazines, Female Mimics, I noticed a copy of Issue #47. I had seen ads in the Transvestian, but had never read the Tapestry. I purchased it and can only say "Wow!" Simply, it's the best TV publication I have ever read, easily in a class by itself, and I have read a multitude of TV publications through the years.

I commend you for your Editorial on religion. I too am a religious person and I thought your editorial was the most poignantly beautiful piece of writing I have ever read on the subject. I read it over and over. It's so powerful and so meaningful.

To tell you a bit about myself, I first started dressing when I was 10 or 11, and it soon became and all-encompassing passion. I went through some duress in high school because I could not completely conceal my somewhat effeminate mannerisms and appearance. I learned to cope, however, and to be true to myself. Today, I don't flaunt my transvestism, but I totally relish the fact that I am what I am. It is constantly the most joyous experience I have ever known, and I'm glad to be me. I feel I am a whole person, and a happy one. Sure, being a transvestite can cause some problems in life, but the beauty of the experience far exceeds any of the trials.

Will close on that note. Keep up your splendid work.

Sincerely,
Jackie Dee (CT-0929)

Dear Editor,

I want to thank you for a wonderful publication. You have put together articles which for the first time have opened up my life. My gratitude is sincere and I hope my letter is taken as a complement as I am sure you work for marginal financial gain, yet, your content could be described as nothing short of tremendous. Your editorial attitude, layout, printing are all important to the "movement". I especially applaud your interest in female transvestism.

Congratulations, and thanks.

- Jennifer F.

SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND CHAPTER OF F.A.C.T. FORMING

Dear friends

I am in the process of forming a chapter of the 'Foundation of American and Canadian Transsexuals' in Southern New England. I have met with Susan Huxford, the agent for F.A.C.T., and she has offered to help and lend her support.

In our area there is a need for a support group for individuals who are searching to find their true gender, and for individuals who are in the early stages of transition. This chapter will be for transsexually inclined persons only, both pre- and post-op.

The group will provide such services as rap sessions, peer counseling, social events, newsletter, referrals, etc.

For additional information, contact:

Karen Aldrich
P.O. Box 9238
North Dartmouth, MA 02747

SEARCHING FOR CONTACTS IN MISSOURI

Dear Editor,

I thoroughly enjoyed Tapestry - found it extremely enlightening and thought your editorial was right on the mark.

I grew up thinking that anyone who cross-dressed had to be either a homosexual or a latent one. Since my interest was entirely with girls, I figured my homosexuality must be pretty deeply latent. That's what it said in the abnormal psych textbook in my class at St Louis U. in 1961.

The same author has come out with a more recent edition stating that the percentage of homosexuals in the transvestite community is less than in the public at large.

He also admitted that neither he nor any of the other experts in the field has any idea what causes this condition.

My theory is perhaps as good as anyone's. I believe that the first strongly stimulating sexual experience etches its impression so strongly on the neurons of the brain that it demands to be repeated, over and over, simply because it is pleasurable.

As a child, I remember changing shoes with a little girl who lived near my grandmother. I'm sure we went further than this and I'm sure we both found it intensely satisfying. So, maybe that's where it got started.

Coming from a Catholic background, I have experienced more than the usual guilt and shame about this condition. I am writing in hopes that your organization can put me in touch with a group in the St. Louis area.

I am 48, 5'9", 170, and thoroughly enjoy crossdressing. I can pass in public with a little help. Have two college degrees - in History and Journalism, and love to read and write.

Anything you can do to help air out this very stagnant closet will be greatly appreciated.

Many thanks,
Marsha S. (MO)

(**** Marsha, try: St. Louis Gateway Femmes, P.O. Box 1262, St. Louis, MO 63188)

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Boston, Mass. 02115

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my appreciation for your wonderful journal. Issue #48 is the first time I have ever seen your publication, and I feel it has helped me to accept myself for what I am -- a husband, a father, a Christian, and a crossdresser.

After nine years of marriage to an incredibly wonderful and extremely lovely woman I finally got the courage to tell my wife about my need and desire to feel feminine at times. I was so scared (What if she laughed? What if she got mad? What if she left me?), because I loved her with all my heart and it would kill me if she rejected me. Telling my wife about my feminine feelings was the hardest thing I've ever done. However, I did it and (I'm happy to report) she said she loved me too much to ever leave me. She wanted to know why I waited so long to tell her. In essence, we wasted many potentially happy years. Well, the biggest reason was that was confused and scared. Now I feel so much better about myself -- and about us as a couple.

My wife is concerned that I won't want to be a man any more. My biggest job is to show her that she needn't be afraid about my masculinity (or my femininity). I'm even more of a man now. I'm a whole person, for the first time in my life. I'm me, on my own terms, not someone else's. Our love-making has improved tremendously, and I'm feeling a tenderness and warmth toward her that is so great. I tell her repeatedly that I'm not a transsexual -- only a crossdresser who loves to feel, dress, and act out my feminine feelings and emotions in a new and different way than we've ever experienced before.

Shortly after I told my wife about my desires to dress, I saw my first copy of Tapestry. What an incredible thing to read -- the articles about people like me, with similar feelings and needs. The articles about the wives of crossdressers really helped, and let me see that my wife has needs just like I do. I hope I can help her meet her needs just as she helps me. We read the journal together, and spent many hours talking about dressing, the emotional aspects involved, and what we both wanted from our relationship.

As a result of all this, I am a much happier person. I'm not ashamed of what I am -- or my needs. I want to be the best I can be at whatever I do, whether it be working at my office, playing music, raising my son, being a husband to my wife, or putting on makeup and perfecting my feminine appearance.

I feel so much more at ease with myself, my wife, and my God. He's been so good to me, and I can feel Him and see Him working in my life. He's given me an inner peace that I've looked for all my life.

Thank you for giving me an opportunity to express myself. Thank you for helping me to understand and come to terms with myself. Please continue helping others. That's why we're all here, really -- to help others.

- J.S. (MN)

SEARCHING FOR CONTACTS IN FLORIDA

Dear Editor,

I have tried with little success to make contact with others in the central Florida area, and those I have made contact with seem afraid or not inclined to meet. So be it.

I'm wondering what the Tapestry circulation is in Florida in general and Central Florida in particular to determine if there are enough of us hetero TVs in this area for me to ask you to invite people wishing to create a group (with the ultimate goal of owning a 'safe' house). If so, have them contact me:

Robin Bolles
P.O. Box 1008
New Smyrna Beach, FL 32070

Dear Editor,

I noticed your advertisement in the Beaumont Society Bulletin and am wondering if some of your ladies would like to write to me. My height is 70", 52, and average build. I act and feel young in my ways.

Concerning my transvestite tendencies, well I do have femme ways, and do dress partially from time-to-time. I believe we are born in our ways, therefore, it becomes an inevitable consequence of our lives. The female mannerisms are reinforced by thought processes and different actions. For example, as a small boy playing with other girls, I was encouraged to wear dresses and knickers from time-to-time. At the time this seemed harmless, but I think it had an effect during the later stages of my life. I need a greater degree of feminization, and this often results in stress and conflicting situations, with the masculine and feminine traits ever present.

Possibly many TVs look at their lives in different ways, not only with the emphasis on femme characteristics and crossdressing, but also to the extent of social interaction particularly among other transvestite members. Besides the usual social events which take place, I feel that participation in other activities is important as well. For example, I am keen on sailing, fashion, music and associated social science disciplines, so I try to incorporate my feminine ways and dress into this side of my life.

Concerning fashions and dress styles, I would be very interested to l rn more about the American experience. I manage to acquire lingerie items in the traditional type of drapers shop, and other clothes either in large department stores or mail order firms. Sometimes these are quite satisfactory.

Again, if any of your ladies would like to write me, I would be very interested in hearing from them.

Very Sincerely,
Janet Jones (United Kingdom)

(**** We would be very happy to forward any mail to Janet. Please follow the mail forwarding instructions for personal listings, and double the postage to cover the cost of overseas mail. - ED)

Dear Editor,

I am not a member of any group except perhaps 'Closet TVs Disunited'. For reasons, mostly having to do with family, it is not practical for me to do more than have fun within the confines of my own batchelder apartment, with occasional forays in skirts at 2:00 AM to drop off mail at the post office.

The definitive word in the preceding paragraph is FUN! Since I was old enough to think for myself and to understand what 'moralistic' values were all about, I have known that I think differently and have different values from my contemporaries. I have learned to hide those differences for the sake of preventing physical, oral, and moral harassment.

I have fun with crossdressing. It is a pleasurable solo activity with a bit of danger if one goes out in public... and it doesn't hurt anybody else. In trying to understand the inclination in myself, and others, I have read many articles, letters, and stories and am appalled at the number of people who feel compulsive, but unhappy about themselves. One characteristic of 'normal' people that I lack is the desire to be part of the crowd, to go along with the current fads, sports, popular causes, etc. I have a hard time understanding the 'need' to fit in and the fear of being different. This has resulted in a history of saying and doing the wrong thing at the wrong time.

When I was about eight, I slid down a concrete ramp and wore a hole in the seat of my pants. My father threatened to put me in dresses for a day if I did it again. That was very scary, not because of any threat to my masculine image, but because I had already learned the danger of being

'different'. Children in particular do not care why or how someone is different.... a characteristic most people never outgrow. What I never admitted to myself for many years was that the thrill of being dressed would almost be worth the harassment from my contemporaries.

When I was sixteen I decided to try on my sister's girdle and within seconds my mother walked into the room. She accepted the true explanation, that I wanted to see what it felt like, but I am sure that she thought that I was being over simplistic. Another scare that lasted many years.

When I was a teenager I went to dancing school to learn 'ballroom' dancing and tango, rhumba, waltz, etc. Since I was afraid of girls, it was harder to ask one to dance than it was to learn the steps. I often wished I could take the girl's part and be led around rather than do the leading. Years later there was a shortage of women at a square dance and I took a girl's part with ease and without any practice. Unfortunately, as much as I wanted to, I could not wear a skirt for that set. I loved to see the skirts whirl and wished very hard that MINE could be whirling with the others.

Another thing I did not admit was that in reading fiction I saw myself as the heroine rather than the hero. The macho types in particular seemed to be silly rather than heroic.

All of which is just leading up to saying that in any activity whether as popular as football or as far out as crossdressing, one should first decide what they want to do, how they are going to do it, and how far they are going to go with it. Then, go for it. If you have second thoughts don't throw the baby out with the bath water, handle the cause of the 'second thoughts'.

Until I read Tapestry Issue #47 I had no idea that the TV world was so well organized. Lots of local parties and lots of mail order 'brides', but not support organizations and the possibility of regional and national get-togethers and cooperation. Maybe coming out of the closet wouldn't be so hard as I thought.

One of the main reasons people who are 'different' are hassled is the hassler's own fear of being thought different by those he/she looks up to, or by those who have power over him/her. When one realizes that it makes it easier to understand where they are coming from and why most people feel that those 'normal' people have the right to condemn you. In other words, almost everyone needs the approval of others. Even a TV likes the approval of other TVs. For some reason which I absolutely DO NOT understand, the loudest persons in any normal group not only feel that they are right but that those who disagree are wrong and must be made to see the 'true light', forcibly if necessary.

In the matter of the psychological aspect of crossdressing, it is as productive a line of questioning as why some persons prefer cats to dogs, or some people don't like Chinese food. People are the sum of their past experiences for the last ten thousand lives or more and that sum pretty well directs our actions. Don't forget, everything you do, every word, every act is what you consider is the best thing to do under the circumstances of that moment. The proof of that statement is simple. If you knew a better way you would use it. It may turn out to have been wrong in retrospect, but right this instance it is the only way. If you didn't shave today it is because after considering all aspects, you decided it was better not to. Everything, that's EVERYTHING we do is what we think is the best thing to do at that instant. I crossdress because it is best for me at the time. There may be something about it that isn't good, but it is mostly right, right now.

Sincerely,
Jennie W. (CA)

Dear Editor,

I learned about your magazine by a lucky chance through finding Issue 47. I have never belonged to a TV organization, and did not know that such existed. In Addition, I had never seen a serious treatment of TVism. Like Siobhan, all I was aware of was pornography - and this despite cross-

dressing (admittedly, in the 'closet') for over twenty years. I have recently been in the process of coming to terms with my TVism as part of general endeavor to acquire a greater measure of self-acceptance. Reading 'Tapestry' has accelerated this long-overdue process, and, as I mention in my listing, I am working towards 'unlocking' and liberating the feminine aspects of my being. I do not know where this process will ultimately take me, but I am resolved to follow it through to the end, rather than recoiling in fear and guilt.

As a health professional, I have an intellectual as well as a purely personal interest in conditions involving 'gender dysphoria,' and cross-gender expression. I look forward to reading serious and provocative discussions of this, from a multitude of perspectives, in 'Tapestry', and perhaps at some point may contribute something to your magazine myself.

My deepest longing at this time is to meet other compatible members of the TV-TS Community for companionship, learning, sharing of experiences, insights, "fantasies," and aspirations, and, above all, friendship. I have many friends but none with whom I can share my TVism, and, despite a few tentative attempts, have still never met a fellow TV. As all of you know, that makes for a certain loneliness and feeling of isolation. I would love to meet some people and attend a group meeting soon, before my 'courage' leaves me, and fear of 'exposure' sets in once again.

Sincerely,
Susan Barton (AZ-0996)

SEARCHING FOR CONTACTS IN E. PENN.

Dear Editor,

Can you put out an appeal to your readers? I am relatively new to the Philadelphia area, and so far it's been disappointing. I can remember reading about how wonderful the city was for people who loved to dress, and now that I am here it seems that one person wrote all of the letters and signed different names to them.

I am interested in making contact with a few crossdressers who are not into the new sexual revolution, who know who they are, and want to express themselves without going overboard. I have met a couple of people who are so paranoid I wonder how they walk around without their shadow scaring them. They do not want to talk about crossdressing as a subject, but as a great sin.

Perhaps they feel McCarthyism is about to rise again and do not want to be dragged (excuse the pun) out into the public and exposed. I know I can pass in public and am not afraid to go out, but I do like to have conversations with those who understand what I am all about, and would enjoy sharing ideas.

What I would like to know is, are there any crossdressers in Philadelphia who are willing to meet and start a support group. It only takes three or four to begin the group and then advertise in the correct magazines to let others know we are there to support them. I would be willing to get together with someone and see what we could do to get one going.

- Jennifer A. (PA-0876)

(**** Jennifer, try: Phi Chapter, c/o W. Beeman, Box 4128, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034. The Phi Chapter serves the Philadelphia area, and is one of the finest support groups in the country.)

Dear Editor,

My name is Elayne Rebecca, and I have been a crossdresser most of my life. I live near Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and am a new member of Tri-Ess.

Although I have been active in public for many years, it has been only this year that I really found myself and decided that it is all right to be just who I am. I found that by allowing 'Elayne' to express herself openly and honestly, without fear or shame I can also allow my male self to be and express all it can be.

I feel good about what I am. I have gone so far as to work with graduate students and two well-known

sexologists in discussion panels on gender identification and the art of crossdressing. Several of us in Iowa would like to start a group, if not a Tri-Ess chapter. I do realize my naivete to the experiences of others. I would very much like to understand the position of others and find new friendships in our cause.

A mutual friend of ours, Mariette Allen, recently spoke at the University of Iowa at a workshop conducted by Ariadne Kane on Cross-dressing and Cross-gender, Behaviors and Lifestyles. Upon meeting her, we discussed my family, and the openness and acceptance found within our family, and 'Elayne'. She undertook a small photo session with us, and interviewed me, my wife, and my oldest daughter of 11 years. Afterward, she suggested I might write you and tell you of my experience. I said I would be delighted to do so, and I began writing a history of the workshop. It suddenly dawned on me that this was very boring, and not at all what I really felt.

I felt something Saturday I hadn't felt for months. Since I took some self-awareness courses that allowed 'Elayne' to exist without guilt or that awareness of still being male. I felt a closeness to these people. I knew I was among friends, friends I have never had, people who could understand what I felt and who I was. In the evening, Dianna came out of the closet for the first time. She was beautiful. She sat beside me in the car as she and Elayne went to dinner. Charlene was in the back seat, not 'dressed', but wishing she were. We stopped for a moment, waiting for the caravan to lead us. I began thinking to myself, "Here I am, as Elayne, in the same place with two other cross-dressers." Dianna said something to me and I reached over and held her hand. I touched Dianna, and began to cry. This is the part of me that is not so easily found. I wanted to stay. I wanted to hold Dianna. Dianna's hand gently held onto mine; and a bond was formed. I've never felt this before, and I want never to lose it again. That night, Elayne lived.

Thank you for letting me share this with you. I would like so much to much to share this feeling with other sisters.... it means a great deal to me.

With My Deepest Love
For All My Sisters
- Elayne Rebecca A. (IA)

Dear Editor,

I recently picked up my first issue of Tapestry (#48) and the first thing I read was Merissa's editorial putting the kibosh on what she calls the "fashion argument". Thank you Merissa, I cannot tell you how much I appreciate your intellectual honesty. After having read my fill of self-indulgent articles in the TV press I had serious doubts about becoming involved with my peers. Your voice changed my mind; it spoke to me of an unknown world - a world in which I belonged.

As to some statements in the penultimate paragraph I would like to say that having gained self acceptance one should neither ask for nor demand acceptance, tolerance, nor respect from others. Demanding is after all only a more adamant way of asking. One should simply expect them.

- Anne B. (CA)

Dear Editor,

Thank you for a wonderful publication - 'Tapestry'. I have now received two issues. I thought the first (#47) may have been just a fluke. It wasn't.

The articles are of interest and well written. The schedule of events and organizations is invaluable. The pictures & bio's are great.

When the time is right for my wife to become more aware of what transvestism is - 'Tapestry' would be a good publication to give her information.

Keep up the good work.

- Bobbie B. (VA)

FORUM

The Forum is for exploring what we think, what we feel, what we say and do. It is for exploring our difficulties, our guilts and fears, and how we can overcome them. The Forum is not for fiction, or fantasy, or technical articles. Rather, it is for talk, for thought, for understanding ourselves and one another, and sharing ourselves with others.

If you have an item you wish to submit for publication in the Forum, send it to: Editor, The Tapestry, P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

ON RELIGION

Dear Editor,

I read with interest the editorial and letter on religion in Tapestry Issue #47. As was alluded to by both writers it might seem somewhat out of place to find articles on religion in a periodical devoted to the phenomena of crossdressing, however I feel that we as a culture need to discuss these issues more.

Much of the guilt and negative feelings that we (and, for those of us who are married, our wives) experience over the issue of our crossdressing as well as the source of much of the opposition we encounter from society in general comes either directly or indirectly from organized religion. In the name of "religion" we are told that what we do is a "sin" and "unnatural." We are made to feel guilty for doing something that is described as "an abomination to God."

These attitudes from religion spill over into society in general and many who might be more willing to accept an alternate lifestyle are content to accept the influence of those in the religious field that this activity, of which they know and understand little, is unacceptable.

It might appear from the preceding remarks that I have a negative view of religion. Quite to the contrary. I have been an active member of a conservative, Evangelical, Christian Church for almost twenty years. For over fifteen years I have been an ordained minister of that Church. I have served as minister to several congregations, including one in a large midwestern city. I am presently active in an advisory and leadership role in a growing church in the New England area.

I have also been a crossdresser since the age of eight. Needless to say the issue has been a central one in my development as a person, a husband, a Christian and a minister. At various times in my life I have accepted the common religious understanding of my actions and have suppressed it - with almost disastrous psychological effects. Eventually I have had to come to grips with my own "selves" and to harmonize my conservative Biblical beliefs with my continuing desire to crossdress. In the process I have had to re-evaluate my understanding of God, religion, and myself and I believe that I have become a better person and a better Christian.

My negative feelings toward my crossdressing have largely been resolved and when I dress now I am comfortable with my feminine self. I have finally arrived at the conclusion that God's love for me is not based on the clothes I wear but on the type of person that I am.

In the process I have also come to the conclusion that much of what we call organized religion is about as far as can be possible from what God wants

it to be. My conclusion is based not on my own feelings but my understanding of the Bible. Before you say that any discussion of what the Bible has to say is worthless let me suggest that much of the opposition that we encounter is based on interpretation of the Bible. If we are going to change attitudes we must meet our opposition on their own ground and cut from under them the foundation of their arguments. If we can deal with the issue of "the Bible says..." then we can get down to the real issue of why our crossdressing is so threatening to society's notions of gender.

In addition many crossdressers and their families are trapped in a guilt cycle by those around them who espouse religious principles based on their interpretations of certain Bible passages. It is important that we seek to free our friends from this trap by giving them the understanding necessary to become comfortable with themselves and then to help those close to them become more tolerant.

It is important that we understand what the key Bible passages are, how they are incorrectly interpreted, and alternate interpretations that might help us to harmonize our religious principles with what we feel. It is important, however, that this not become a totally negative involvement. We need to understand the positive elements of what the Bible has to say on these issues as well.

I believe that the Bible is a book that deals with the issues of life. It doesn't give us all the answers but it does give us principles to guide us in our decision-making process. If it deals with issues of life then it must have something positive to say about the issues of gender, personal freedom, attitudes toward self and others, etc. It is important that we focus on these passages as well as dealing with negative passages.

I would suggest that it might be useful to deal with these issues on a continuing basis as we do psychological, medical and social issues. The problems and discussions are too involved to be resolved in a single column in a single issue and too important to be ignored.

Let me conclude with one observation. Merissa's fine editorial concluded that "to love and live in harmony with self and nature is the cornerstone of existence." This is precisely the central message of the Bible, particularly the New Testament portion. Jesus, Paul, Peter, John and the other writers repeatedly stress the centrality of love.

What follows are just a few of the hundreds of New Testament passages that emphasize the pre-eminence of love.

"Love the Lord God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. The second commandment is like it. Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and Prophets hangs on these two commandments." (Jesus - Matt. 22:37-40)

"The commandments ... are summed up in this one rule: Love your neighbor as yourself. Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the law." (Paul - Rom. 13:9-10)

"Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails.... And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." (Paul - 1 Cor. 13:4-8,13)

"The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love." (Paul - Gal. 5:6)

"And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity." (Paul - Col. 3:14)

"If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture 'love your neighbor as yourself' you are doing right." (James - Jas. 2:8)

"Love one another deeply, from the heart." (Peter - Pet. 1:22)

With all of this emphasis on love as the central part of the message of the Bible - the "greatest commandment," the "fulfillment of the law," the "greatest" virtue - it would seem that those who are intolerant of others, who do not show love and understanding of those that exhibit a somewhat different

lifestyle than their own, are violating this basic principle of Christianity.

Perhaps those in positions of leadership in the religious community ought to take a good long look at their own attitudes to see whether they are fulfilling this greatest commandment before they start worrying about what others are doing.

Jesus is clear in His rejection of those attempts to judge the right and wrong actions of others without concern for their own condition. "Do not judge, or you will be judged. For in the same way you judge others you will be judged." He continues with a humorous illustration of someone who is so concerned with picking a speck of sawdust out of someone else's eye that he ignores a large stick of wood in his own eye. He concludes by saying "You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye and then you will see clearly to remove a speck from your brother's eye." (Matt. 7:1-5)

Perhaps the lack of love shown by Evangelical religious leaders (Jerry Falwell et al) toward those in alternative lifestyles is the "plank" that they need to get out of their lives before they can come to us and talk to us about the type of clothes that we wear. I know one thing. I am convinced that God loves me regardless of the clothes that I wear - what people like Jerry Falwell think is insignificant.

- Diane Dixon

PLAYING THE TRANSSEXUAL GAME

or

THE CHALLENGE OF BEING HONEST WITH YOURSELF

by
Cheryl Costa

The first time I was caught playing with my mother's cosmetics was when I was six years old. Actually I wasn't really caught in the act. My mother noticed some sort of red residue around my lip area and got very concerned that I was coming down with some dreaded childhood illness. After close inspection she realized that I had traces of lipstick on. This threw my dear mom into a tizzy. She called my dad into the room and gave me the third degree. WHY? I was honest with them and told them that I liked girls' things and wanted to play dress-up like my girl playmates. This was about 1959 -- the 'Right Stuff' years. Steve Canyon, and the original seven astronauts were the image of the day.

Mom pointed out that I had expressed desire to be a jet pilot when I grew up. With this she also pointed out that girls don't do such things and boys don't wear lipstick. Like other transgendered persons, the softer persona never went away. I continued to experiment with mom's makeup and old clothes in the attic, all in secret of course. I went in the Air Force to make a 'man' of myself. I was 105 lbs, 5'8" with a mild beard and rosy cheeks....a wimp! The USAF decided that I should climb telephone poles in South Vietnam. After getting shot off a pole I woke up to find myself in

traction and unable to view my genitals. A pole climber's worst fear is that of running a pole (losing footing and sliding down a pole crotch first. In telephone school there were several gruesome stories about climbers that neutered themselves in such mishaps. Most guys would have been frightened to death. Part of me was saying "Oh no," while another part was saying "Wonderful."

This I guess hits the nail on the head when it comes to illustrating the internal conflict of a transsexually inclined transvestite. Even at my young age I was very well-read about transsexualism and related issues. Since Johns Hopkins had only worked on the first 16 transsexuals four years before, there was a lot of magazine material to read. Then I read Dr. Rubens' book 'Everything You Wanted To Know About Sex But Were Afraid To Ask'. This guy did not like transsexuals or transvestites. He considered transsexuals nothing more than "mutilated-transvestite-homosexuals." This distressed me very badly because I really wasn't sure what I was and I was deeply fearful of being something really perverted. I continued to read everything I could get my hands on.

Two years after I married my wife, revelations were made with the support of liquid courage.....I was drunk. I told her that I believed myself to be a transsexual. Being a small-town girl she was upset, but loved me and wanted to support me. We decided to call the Mental Health Association. They referred me to a mental health clinic for screening. This was very tricky because I was still in the active duty military. After a very careful screening I was referred to a specialized counselor at a gender identity clinic. After several sessions it was very clear that I wasn't gay. The issue of whether I was a transsexual (TS) or a transvestite (TV) was not very clear. The gender identity clinic I was using was considered to be very conservative. They felt that I was TS and recommended that I try living as a woman for a year in preparation for gender reassignment. These revelations threw my dear spouse into a tail spin. Remember that TS objectives can be hell on a marital relationship.

Cheryl Costa

What followed was the most confused eight years of my life. I stayed in the military for a few more years, then made a fresh start in a civilian career. It took four more years of hard soul-searching and counselling to get my act together. It took some time to get my spouse on board with me. Remember, by this time we were complete strangers living in the same house.

The reason that I illustrated some of the events of my early adulthood is to make a very important point. The point is "FREE ACCESS TO INFORMATION". If I had access to journals like 'The Tapestry', and clubs like the Tiffany Club back in the mid 70's like I did in the early 80's, the miserable eight years that I previously mentioned might have been very different. Allow me to further illustrate.

All along I was searching for background information, and contact with others like myself to gauge my perspective, and most of all to find answers. The biggest problem with searching out background information was unbalanced media coverage. For example; 95% of the available reading was TS in nature or in concentration.

The TS phenomena received wide attention and much interest by the media in general. On the other hand the TV received very little attention, and that was limited to Mardi Gras type events. Without good factual information about the very nature of our being, trying to get a perspective on where you fit in on the transgender spectrum is very hard. In fact it's not only hard, it's very often impossible. Thus we have a lot of poor souls out there doing unfortunate things.

As I mentioned before, I feel there has been overly too much bruhaha about transsexualism in general. To compound things, the over emphasis on transsexuals caused what I call the 'upper classmen syndrome', which works something like this. Have you ever noticed that some people wear their TS status or reputed TS status like a scout merit badge? Please don't get me wrong about self pride. I think that having self respect and being prideful of one's self is very important. But flaunting TS status like it's something to GRADUATE to is wrong. Over the past several years I have met a number of very fine people in the transgender community. Among these fine people, I have met a number of self proclaimed 'TSs'. Only a mere handful do I consider true TS. Some of you are by now saying, "Where does she get off judging people like that?" I get off saying it because I've been there. Remember I was screened as a TS and treated as one for quite some time.

The major criticism I have is not with the TSs themselves, but with the medical community and the general media. A large number of clinical organizations are in the BUSINESS of helping TSs realize their life long dream. A big problem with most of them is that they see TV/CD as one thing and view TS as another. In other words black and white with no gray zone. In fact there is a very big gray zone. In turn they communicate these differences of opinion to the media which by nature espouses on the unusual and different. Let's face it, mere cross-dressers are a boring subject compared to "Men having operations to become Women." This preoccupation with the unusual has given us all a very unbalanced picture of the culture. Another good example was the recent Home Box Office special "What Sex Am I?" 80% of the documentary was dedicated to TSs vs 20% to TVs. This imbalance in the media and in classical texts causes a lot of problems for the gray zone transgendered person who's trying to figure him/herself out. Hence we have the beginnings of a reputed TS. Allow me to define the 'reputed TS': A person who feels that they're beyond the classical definition and needs of cross-dressing, thus assuming they must be TS.

Let's talk about the sorting out process. The sorting out process is usually a self research project highlighted with lots of personal reading of just about everything that has been published. Then after the person in question reads about being gay and being TS and next to nothing about being a TV, this poor soul goes and talks to a 'trained' professional. If the person is very lucky they get a professional who knows something about the subject and helps get them back on the right track. If the professional is a helpful nerd they refer the TS a specialized professional for further treatment. On the other hand the person can go into their general practitioner, very well read and conversant in the subject, and get hormone treatment. The latter is not advised but is done never the less. I know, I did it.

OK, you're on hormone therapy and you've started electrolysis. Where to from there? Well most people would tell you to relax and let the changes come, learn the life style and social graces, and develop your confidence. i believe this is where the problem starts. By this time the TS is pushing so hard to become a new person they lose a little perspective. How? Well let's say for the sake of argument that the TS in question is really a very motivated TV/CD. Let's face it, we all have fantasies and if being a full time woman is one of them then so be it. But fantasy is fun and being a TS is serious business.

After several months on hormones I began to detect subtle changes in my moods - normal with hormones. In addition I began to feel differently about myself, not to mention that my male drive went into the dirt. After

nearly a year on hormones I stopped. Why? I FOUND THAT I NEEDED MY MALE SIDE AS MUCH AS I NEEDED MY FEMALE SIDE! I decided that I could integrate the best of both into my lifestyle. A number of my TS friends felt I was chickening out (and some still do). For the longest time I was ashamed and embarrassed that I didn't measure up. I also felt like a fool because I had fouled up things so badly by telling my family and friends of my TS intentions. (But remember, I was screened by a couple of trained professionals.)

About a year ago a TS friend of mine went for her surgery. Another friend , a post-op, and I really didn't think she was ready. We did everything in our power to persuade her to delay her plans another year or at least a few months, but she was bound and determined to do it. It became such a problem for me and my post-op friend that we almost called her surgeon to express our fears. What fears you ask? Little things she would say in passing about how she put something over on this shrink or that counselor. These little things made it appear to me that she was on a fantasy trip and not really being honest with herself. When we were almost ready to blow the whistle, another friend asked us, "What gave us the right?" After all the TS in question was old enough to be my mother and was quite capable of making an adult decision. Bottom line -- we did nothing.

Six months after her operation the TS in question admitted her folly and expressed regrets, but was determined to make the best of it. Dealing with this has been difficult for me and my post-op friend. If this had been a question of life or death, like suicide, we would have acted.

I so often read reports of TSs who say they don't regret their decision. Is their answer motivated by honesty, or by 'misery loves company'? Another thought comes to mind - why we don't hear about dissatisfied TSs. Maybe they're not around to comment. One day not long ago two post-ops I know and I were talking about TSs we knew who did themselves in after the all-important operation. We counted 10 between the three of us. We counted about another 30 happy ones between us. Does this mean that one out of every four TSs made a mistake? I think not, but I think that a good number of perspective TSs should stop and assess themselves very carefully. Above all I feel it is very important that perspective TSs be allowed to slow down and/or back out if they wish. Who says they can't now? A lot of people. For example, I know of a TS who got cold feet the day before surgery. Now her surgeon won't re-schedule her, and her friends won't let her forget her 'moment of weakness'. Too often a pre-op must 'play the game with the trained professionals'. I truly believe that many TSs quite literally convince themselves of their TSism while they're convincing their doctors. Here is the point of being honest with yourself. If you can't be honest with yourself, you're headed for a big, big shock some day.

In closing I must state that I feel that reassignment procedures are a Godsend for the right person, and equally a curse for the wrong person. Let us show support to our TS sisters and brothers, but on the other hand help them get a balanced perspective on their dreams. Let's make it easier to be honest with themselves.

Peace!

- END -

Leather and Lace

Published monthly by

Tania Volen, Inc.

200 Main Street
Tennent, N.J. 07763-0200
201-363-8500

Annual subscription:
$18.00 USA
$24.00 Canada
$42.00 Overseas

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AFTERTHOUGHTS

by

JoAnn Renee Cone, Ph.D.

Most transsexuals and cross-dressers want, above all, to 'pass'; to be able to freely enjoy themselves in their feminine mystic anywhere and anytime. In other words, to be able to shop, dine out, do whatever they would in any other normal situation, and not be discovered to be something other than what is physically seen or perceived.

There are numerous sisters who pass quite easily due to a combination of many factors such as natural feminine body structure, delicate facial features, movements, etc. There are some that just cannot pass without a major act of God. That sad fact cannot change the way they feel, and it is something that must be dealt with on a personal level.

Each day slips by as the struggle continues to be just another woman, another person unnoticed in a crowd. I stress the word 'person'. All of us have heard at one time or another the old hack about how hard women work at being beautiful. Indeed I empathize their plight. But the effort is ten-fold for the TV or TS who must first mask or camouflage their masculine defects, and then perform the magic of transforming their exterior being into a thing of beauty. A normal woman (maybe a better term would be a natural woman) does not have to overcome the natural handicaps the transsexual/-transvestite does. Terri Scott in Tapestry Issue #46 pointed out that many, if not most TVs and TSs go out in public dressed according to their male standards of what looks good on (other) women, or what they find (sexually) attractive. Yes, I too would give anything to have the figure of Linda Evans, not to mention her style and class, but I don't. Not too many women do, and they realize they cannot publicly emulate her.

In Issue #46 one caption under Jennifer's picture noted, "I know I've done everything right. I pass." Yet, in the ensuing article it would appear to the mind's eye that maybe she passed but did not try all that hard to blend in with the other women around her. A waist-length wig, short leather skirt et al are not necessarily what all women wear to all occasions. We all have to be careful of trying to be, well, maybe a little too feminine, at least in our view of femininity, and really consider how others will be dressed.

Many times I find myself simply going to the grocery store and dearly wanting to put on a very dressy dress, long glittery gold earrings, maybe flashy textured hose and, of course, heels. But, how many 'real' women get dressed to kill to get a head of lettuce? Not too many. The grocery store is sort of a 'safe' haven for people to feel they can relax in. You see other women in curlers (tacky at best in any circumstances), while other people pad through in slippers when shopping at night. Jeans, and generally grubbies are the mainstay of the high fashion for Safeway. Oh, at 5 or 6pm sure you will see many other women who have just gotten off work and are wearing nice suits or scrumptious sweater/skirt combinations. But remember they did not dress specifically for the meat department at the store - they dressed for their work.

I used the grocery store as only one example, but the thought process must still be used in any situation. In this environment you see a wide microcosm of society. TVs and TSs want to act and dress as everyone else does, to not be noticed -- to pass.

But there have been times in my earlier years of naivete' when I went to a drive-in movie wearing a slinky low cut blouse and skirt with heels. Did I stand out? -- Like a neon sign! I'm not necessarily saying I did not pass, but I sure attracted attention from the "Miller High Life just-barely-out-of-puberty" set (some wolf whistles, and a few lingering stares which would make anyone almighty uncomfortable). Yes, we want to pass, but we also want to blend in, become anonymous. The more out of place we look the more attention we are going to draw, and the harder people look, the

more chance our secret will be discovered.

I always try to dress nicely, but I remember being a woman is not always wearing lace and high heels. Sometimes nice slacks and a cowl-neck top are what the occasion calls for. It is the little things that will also make you stand out, not just your very obvious choice of the major clothing items. For instance, a little earlier I mentioned wearing very flashy earrings. I have a pair I simply adore, but they are definitely not the type I would wear every day. The choice of earrings, and other jewelry, will either augment or detract from your over-all appearance - especially your face. If you are wearing blue jeans, a V-neck top and very flashy earrings, it is the ear ornamentation that is going to draw attention. Whereas if you have on a very nice evening cocktail dress, the earrings are not going to be the center of consideration; they will casually highlight your over-all outfit.

Lipstick and eye makeup are also a prime facet. Not too many women wear bright red lipstick today, or even nail polish that is fire red. Most go in for colors slightly demure in subdued pinks, pastels, corals, and dark reds. Choose the color of eye shadow for the occasion, and what looks good on you. Glittery Royal Blue may make your eyes 'jump out' with beauty but is that really appropriate when holding a frozen pizza in the check out line at the super market? Another point to consider here is your age. It is so very important in your makeup and manner of dress. If you are, say, 19 or 20, you can wear colors and styles of clothing and accessories that let you blend in with the more colorful, youthful set. But if you are over 30 be careful to not look anything other than your age. Bright red lipstick and polish, short skirts, ultra tight sweaters may indeed make you look like a lady - a lady of the evening. I know you are only trying to emulate other women around you but a woman who is 35 may not wear the style you are wearing, for if she did, she would look out of place herself.

Point being: Transsexuals and transvestites have one strike against them already. No reason to draw undue attention if one doesn't have to. Over-doing will make you look like a woman who is trying to look younger (or older), and maybe a little ridiculous - or a street walker.

Other trivial items can make all the difference. I normally wear a fairly curly shoulder length light brown wig. I had been wearing one just about like my present mop but it was a little darker brown and slightly fuller. It did make me look like a prostitute. Specifically why, I didn't know. It just didn't have the right look to it. I didn't realize it until after I was asked if I worked in a local bar (and how much I charged). It also brought out some of the masculine defects in my face as well, and I was "discovered" a few times. I changed wigs to my present style but I did a great deal of looking first. It is not quite as full, and is a lighter brown. It fits my face better, and appears as though my own hair would if it were long and styled. Since the change of wigs I have bopped merrily about town, and no one has even suspected - not even the dreaded kids and teenage girls. (In #46 Dr. Peo pointed out that teenage girls and young children will read you quite easily due to sophisticated built-in 'radar'. I have found this to be especially true.) I have even talked with many teenage bobby-soxers on occasion without suspicion, and it was greatly attributed to the way I was dressed.

It is time for some education - time to educate yourself and learn what looks good on you and what doesn't.

Read every woman's magazine (if you don't already). Pay close attention to styles and dressing and makeup tips. Women learn from these publications, so there's no reason why we can't also.

Observe the world around you. Go to a mall close to your home, shop if you wish, but mostly just watch people. Note how other women really are dressed - their jewelry, shoes, accessories, hair styles, colors for the different seasons. Notice women who have on clothes that just obviously don't look good on them at all. Young girls learn from each other, and from their parents when growing up. We must go through

these growing pains too, but are forced to do it differently. Yes, we must learn from other people.

What colors and styles of clothing are popular in your area, and which of these looks good on you. Lavender is very popular right now all across the country, but not everyone looks good in this color. Don't try to look too chic. A Paris original may look right at home in New York City, but looks like a cat at a dog convention in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Then as you buy your clothes make sure you can get as much mileage from the colors and types as possible. I recently paid the paltry sum of less than one hundred dollars for some blouses and skirts that were second hand, plus a couple of new blouses I couldn't find that were used. After the final tally I came up with over 15 different outfits, and I wasn't even trying to match jewelry or shoes at that point. I really got my money's worth.

As I write this I have on a light pink sweater, plaid pink and grey skirt, a strand of nice simulated pearls, pearl earrings, and white pearl bracelet. Matching, very casual....yet classy. I have been shopping all day, and passed easily.

A last word to consider. A lot of whether or not you pass is your attitude and self confidence in public. If you shuffle along like you are embarrassed, or look at the ground, people will think you are acting a little self-conscious. They then start looking harder at you. If you look like you have all the confidence in the world, look people in the eye, talk to others before your are spoken to, all they will see is a bright, sensitive woman who enjoys life.

Our biggest fear is being discovered - being 'read'. If I have done everything in my own power physically and mentally to be the woman I am inside, and I am still read, here is what I do. The last time I was 'noticed' was about three months ago. A woman about 21 was checking me out at a department store, and began looking at me very intently. It had been a few hours since I last shaved, and a little bit of what facial hair I have left was peeking through. She asked me, "Are you a man or what?" I looked at her squarely in the eye, and said, "I am a transsexual." Her eyes lit up, a grin spread across her face, and a whole battery of questions came forth. She was genuinely interested in what and who I was, and why. I did not hold back at all, nor did I back off. At that point she accepted me for what and who I was. My attitude told her that I accepted myself so why shouldn't she accept me. I was not embarrassed, and she was not either. We cannot prejudge what others may perceive.

I don't think I am different than anyone else. I think I am a very special person because I know the worlds of both men and women. How many natural born males and females can make that claim?

- END -

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TALKING WOMAN TO WOMAN

by
Julia Matheson

It's not possible, -- for me. Much as I enjoy indulging the female side of my character, truly talking woman-to-woman I cannot do. And neither can any of us. For the most effective understanding of how to cope with a husband or partner who is a transvestite, a real woman needs the advice and support of another real woman who has already managed it.

For all that we may trumpet to one another the joys and advantages of TV life, (and be assured, I enjoy high heels and skirts as much as anyone) the hard and unpleasant fact remains that there is very little to recommend this curious compulsion of ours to a real, biological woman.

We should ask ourselves honestly, just how much we are able really to put ourselves in a position to fully comprehend and appreciate their hopes and fears, their physiology, their true position in society.

One of my favorite quotes is from Somerset Maugham, on the subject of learning languages. He says, "Unless you devote your whole life to it, you will never learn to speak the language of another country to perfection; you will never know its people and its literature with complete intimacy. For they, and the literature which is their expression, are wrought, not only of the actions they perform and the words they use, neither of which offer great difficulty, but of ancestral instinct, shades of feeling that they have absorbed with their mothers' milk, and innate attitudes that the foreigner can never quite seize."*

As a Canadian of Irish background, I have spent some effort in trying to get to know and understand my countrymen and women in Quebec. I now speak French quite well, and I think I understand many of their attitudes, but I will never pass as a native speaker beyond the few syllables needed to call for a beer in the pub.

The difficulty of understanding other groups shows up well when you compare nationalities. Despite the more or less common language, there are great differences in social attitudes between England and the United States. A deep-seated and fundamental difference, very noticeable during the Second World War, is that most Englishmen preserve their machinery long after the American has used his up, thrown it away and acquired another. Furthermore an American's view of politics is a lot more intense than the British. It is no accident of language that an Englishman "stands" for election, whereas in the U.S., they "RUN"!

What has all this to do with TVism, I hear you cry? Well, if it's that difficult to acquire another language, or relate to another nationality, it is surely impossible for anyone to really get inside the psychological skin of someone of the opposite sex. The transsexuals do their best, and after all their many trials, go a very long way towards it. They undergo from early life, very many agonies in trying to come to terms with their femininity and achieving a place in society. However these problems are radically different from the upbringing of a true female from birth. Ask any real woman what it's like.

Not that being a biological female is any bed of roses either. How many of us, enjoying our delicate silks and elegant lingerie, ever get down to scrubbing the kitchen floor. Would you really like to menstruate and give birth? Well, even if you have the urge and the courage to go the full transsexual route, you can't - because you're biologically disbarred, fella. And as in everything else in this world, there's no substitute for experience.

Direct and important confirmation of the point that I am trying to make is in Mr. Roger Peo's latest article** where he found that for wives, .. "It appeared that the most meaningful support came from the wives of other crossdressers, - when they could be found."

However much we may try, whatever consideration we show cannot be as

effective as encouragement from someone else who has, truly and completely, been one of their own sex from birth. So a large part of helping your partner would seem to be to get her in touch with another woman in the same spot.

An interesting innovation in this direction is the annual non-dressing summer picnic held by the NWGA group in Portland, where wives meet one another, with their husbands in their male persona. I wish I could say that I have attended one of these interesting functions, maybe by the time this appears I will have done so. It is an idea which could well be imitated by other groups.

How many of your TV friends just might have wives who would appreciate support from one another?

- END -

* "The Summing Up" W. Somerset Maugham, 1938
** "Wives of Crossdressers, Isolated and Misunderstood" --- Tapestry Issue #48

'THE FASHION ARGUMENT'

Dear Editor

Having read your editorial from issue #48 (the best issue yet, by the way), as well as the other related articles, I think there is an aspect to the 'Fashion Argument' which has been overlooked. Allowing that the argument itself may be irrelevant, this aspect is still significant.

Much air has been moved trying to isolate the motivation for cross-dressing, which generally comes down to "I like it!" More germane is the motivation for passing. In spite of what many hostile types would like to have believed, a primary reason for passing is NOT necessarily to attract male attention.

Consider this basic situation: When a girl goes outside wearing her brother's jeans, and even his T-shirt, she is very unlikely to receive anything approaching ridicule, unless she is out of 'uniform' for the place and occasion (e.g. a wedding). Therefore there is no particular motivation for her to try to appear as anything other than what she is, a girl in masculine jeans. On the other hand, a boy in his sister's skirt is almost certain to provoke some variation of "Good heavens! What are you doing?" If a boy wants to wear a garment with a non-bifurcated lower half, he discovers quickly that he'd better appear to be a girl if he wants to avoid severe criticism. This, then, provides considerable motivation to "pass".

It is easy to say to such a person that he should be self-accepting and let the problem be someone else's, but no one I know is totally impervious to all criticism. Most CDs I know started at an age when approval from others, particularly authority figures, was quite important. Since habits are merely behaviors loaded into the subconscious "autoexec" because they were perceived as useful, it follows that most of us will continue to attempt to pass, long after the psychological need has ended. Indeed, as in my own case, many will probably feel that some sort of artistic balance is violated whenever less than a complete transformation is attempted (i.e. "putting on my best face"). I maintain that this would continue to be the case for many, even if cross-dressing became totally acceptable socially. Quite simply, most of us have an image of the sort of person we wish to project, and social changes will have a minimal impact on that image.

- D. Eileen Rogers (CA-0647)

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'THE FASHION ARGUMENT'

Dear Editor:

Thank you for your well though-out and clearly expressed editorial on what you have called "The Fashion Argument" in issue #48 of the Tapestry. Your comments have set me thinking about the matter about which you wrote.

I have no disagreement whatever with the things that you have said, but I still think that the double standard of society on the issues of gender-related behavior is a matter not to be dismissed lightly, since it has an acute impact on the problems that we cross-dressers face, though not necessarily relating to their motivation. It is best summarized by looking at the amused approval given a 'tomboy' and the contempt leveled at a 'sissy'. After all, this is what has kept many of us in the 'closet'.

I'm old enough to remember the voluminous skirts that were 'de rigeur' for women early in this century were universal, and have admired the courage that led Mrs. Bloomer to design a liberating garment for active women in the face of strong social disapproval. Within the short space of my lifetime women have won the right to wear what they choose, including borrowing from what were previously exclusively male attire. Until the present century they were probably more restricted than men in what they could wear with approval.

As women have gained this liberty in dress, they have also become free to engage in previously masculine activities and behaviors, and even though they have not tried, as far as I know, to masquerade as men, the concept of what is femininity has been changing rapidly. A lot of the 'feminine' things, like excessive make-up and teetering heels that so many of our sisters love have been largely abandoned by the majority of women. Perhaps the assumption of these trappings by our sisters is a bit nostalgic, I think!

While teaching me some simple feminine skills like needlework and cooking, my mother convinced me that it was unfortunate to be born male, since women were far better people. In my earliest cross-dressing explorations I was largely interested in dressing the life-sized doll that I had in my mirror, and causing it to be the kind of woman I wished that I could at least relate to. I viewed girls with an awe bordering on terror, and only began to have an occasional comfortable feminine contact when in Medical School. To this day, my best contacts with women other than my wife have been while dressed, in the presence of the small group of women that I feel comfortable with, since I have let them know of my special feminine feelings. I have very seldom wanted to be mistaken for a woman - only as a feminine man. Thus, I suspect that my crossdressing is a special case. But does this not apply to all of us?

I rather think that too much has been written on the subject of cross-dressing on the assumption that we are all of one type. The surest way to be wrong in interpreting a complex matter like human behavior is to develop a single, all-purpose formulation. (I think Freud did this long ago.) Let's accept our differences and rejoice in them. surely each of us, man or woman, makes our decisions on many things, including interests in clothing, on very different bases.

- Anne-Marie B. (NH-0844)

'THE FASHION ARGUMENT'

Dear Editor

I read your editorial in issue #48 and I said to myself, "That does it! I've got to write her!"

I am a man who comes into this world with a different perspective than any other cross-dresser I have met or read about. For a long time, for many years in fact, I was obsessed with the movement called 'Dandyism'. However, when I would talk about it, nobody would have more than the slightest idea of what I was talking about. Finally, I gave up since nobody was really interested in it anyway. I greatly

admire the successful dandies of history, such as Mr. Brummell who was concerned with refinement through a ritual of taste and manners as an outline for the way he lived. He wore masculine attire. In those days, however, from 1800 - 1830, there was plenty of scope for Dandyism. Today there is not, however I am a man and I exist today and I have a dandy frame of mind and self-devotion and yet I am a transvestite. In other words, it DOES MATTER WHAT THE FASHION TRENDS ARE, OR WERE!

Reviving the fashion trends, and the Golden Age of Dandyism in particular, is impossible today if it is to mean what it once did. A MAN WHO WISHES TO EXPRESS HIS FEMININITY AS A MAN AND A MAN WHO WISHES TO EXPRESS HIS FEMININITY AS A WOMAN ARE NOT ENTIRELY DIFFERENT! I am living proof of this. The parallel, if there is one, between the successful dandy - as outlined by Mr. Brummell - and the successful transvestite is that neither is really noticeable. I used to be, and I got all sorts of stares as the article by Debbie Rosen states, but not any more.

I disagree with you also when you state that we (transvestites) should not be looking for social acceptance. If we are self-confident enough, we will get it. Even if we are not very self-confident we will still get it eventually. As for understanding, this is more difficult.

- Angelique B. (CA-0578)

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TERRI'S THOUGHTS
by Terri Scott

THE MID-LIFE CRISIS

No one is middle aged, at least no one cares to openly admit it. Middle age isn't something that you wait anxiously for like a pre-teen for the teenage years but rather it is a phenomenon that is suddenly there despite the fact that you never thought that you would actually be that old and now that you are, you really don't believe it. The only good thing that can be said about middle age is that it is better than the alternative. We have all heard about the mid-life crisis and now we are experiencing it and are a lot more interested in the whole subject.

Like most of life, middle age can be difficult but you are an adult and you can handle it, you hope. For us, middle age can be even more of a problem than for others. This was brought home to me recently by a friend who told me that she thought that she was going crazy. I naturally asked her why she thought so. Her answer was that she found that her desire to dress was increasing with each passing year. She had thought that as she grew older it would subside or at least remain the same but it had increased, she couldn't get enough of dressing. I assured her that she wasn't going crazy, she was just experiencing a mid-life crisis. My considerate bedside manner put my friend into a deeper shock - a mid-life crisis? She felt that was about the same as going crazy. I assured her that it wasn't and that she was a long way from being crazy.

The mid-life crisis is a fact of life. Some people handle it better than others but we all experience some trepidation at the thought of being forty and the fact that realistically, at least half of our life is gone. Now, if the mid-life crisis hits you where you feel it the most, isn't it logical that for gals like us, it is

going to hit us right square in the thing that we love most, being female? We realize that the years are going by and they are going by faster every year. How much time is left? Who knows, but I want it to be good time, I want to spend it doing what I like to do most and you know what I like to do most, the same thing that you like to do most, be a gal. The middle age executive starts to find more time to play golf. The middle age housewife and mother, freed from the task of raising a family, finds herself and is suddenly doing things that no one suspected she could do. The stories are endless of sudden changes in personality and lives by people in the mid years of life, so, why shouldn't the same experience happen to us? It does.

Volumes have been written about the stages of life but little has been written about how the stages of life affect the crossdresser. Someone just coming out of the closet is quite different than the gal who has been out of the closet for twenty years. We all know and accept that as fact. Age doesn't make a difference in that situation but age does make a difference when it comes down to how we view our life and our future. The twenty-five year old accomplished crossdresser has fifty years ahead of her to experience her femininity, the fifty year old accomplished crossdresser has half that, maybe less, maybe more. It's that big 'maybe' that gets to you and makes you want to dress more frequently and for longer periods of time, like maybe every day for the rest of your life. As I told my friend, "You're not going crazy, you're experiencing your mid-life crisis and a lot of us share the same feelings and desires."

The concern is how we face those feelings and desires. For many of us, our life has been spent compromising our feminine feelings for stability in our total life. We sacrifice opportunities to dress for the good of the family, job or other reasons. The mid-life crisis makes us less willing and in many cases unwilling to make those compromises and sacrifices. The result naturally is trouble because the stability of our lives goes down the drain. Again, this is no different than the happenings in the life of the mid-life non- crossdresser but the results and the harm can be greater because of our situation.

Each of us has to deal with our own situation in our own way. What is good for one gal may not be for another, however, we all should be aware that our feelings and desires to experience our feminine being are definitely affected by our age and past experiences. Our lifestyle is unique and can be filled with rewards and happiness if one has accepted herself. We are not crazy at mid-life nor any other stage of life. We are different from the average Jane but in reality, there is no average Jane, just people travelling the often difficult path of life that may get a little more rocky at mid-life.

- END -

(Edited from NWGA Newsletter, published by the Northwest Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 4928, Portland, OR 97208)

ACCEPTANCE
by Roni

In this wonderful world of crossdressing that we live with, all of us try in our own way to achieve our own fantasy of what we think we would be like if we were female. We buy clothes, and make-up, and jewelry, and after we don all of this paraphernalia, we once again achieve a feeling of Euphoria. Once again we feel good, or comfortable, or happy, or many other descriptive feelings that we can conjure up. The more we dress-up, the better we get, -- and the more we want to dress-up to achieve this feeling.

But all of the paraphernalia cannot cover up our masculinity in total. Even though we may look like a female (some better than others), we may not 'act' female in the way we move. But we keep trying. We want desperately to be accepted by everyone.

Even though we may not 'pass', we still want to be accepted.

If we do not believe we will be accepted, we stay in the 'closet', we are afraid to venture out because of what people will say, or do. Those of us who have ventured out of the closet have found that there are those that will accept us. Especially if one belongs to a cross-dressers club.

The more that we perceive that we are accepted, whether we are or not, the more we come out of the closet. We spend more time in cross-dressing groups, and as this feeling of acceptance grows, more time in the public's eye. Sometimes we mask this acceptance thing by saying, "Well, I don't care what they think, I'm going to do my thing anyway." But in reality we would not go out if we knew there would be no acceptance. If in its place there would be ridicule and scorn, we would not be so brave to venture forth.

If we want, and need, this acceptance, we ourselves have to be more accepting of other life-styles, and even other cross-dressers who are trying to interpret, and bring out their femininity. It's their fantasy, and their interpretation. Some are better than others, but the point is, they are trying to make their best interpretation within their self-imposed limitations.

For whatever reason a person has for these limitations, they should be accepted for what they are, limitations to a person's fantasy. These may be relaxed with time and experience, or as personal life styles change, or they may be tightened up, but a person is doing what they think seems best for them at the time. One should not try to impose less restricting limitations on them. Accept them as they are.

- END -

THE BIBLE AND TRANSVESTITES

by
Janice Van Cleve

"A woman must not wear men's clothes nor a man put on woman's dress; and anyone who does this is detestable to Yahweh, your God" (Deut. 22:5, Jerusalem Bible). With these words Judeo-Christian antagonists assail transvestites and sometimes succeed in plunging them into needless guilt.

Nancy A., from The Rose City, attempted to counter this passage in the NWGA newsletter Vol. 1 No. 4. The article, "Don't Give Me That Old Time Religion" correctly pointed out that most of these antagonists are ignorant of the Bible or at least very selective in applying it. But Nancy strikes only glancing blows and fails to neutralize the passage as an argument used against us.

For example, the article noted that translations are sometimes faulty. This is a moot point; whatever translation you prefer, the meaning of Deut 22:5 is quite clear. The article asks if current mannish fashions for women contradict Deut 22:5. Merissa Sherrill Lynn's definitive article "The Fashion Argument" in Tapestry #48 answered that once and for all -- transvestism is not a fashion issue. The article also asks if the laws of the state take precedence over the rules of a wandering nomadic tribe from the distant past. This is a matter of faith. If the Bible is really the Word of God, it would not matter if He gave it to 'The Washington Post' or to a fossilized trilobite. It stands as given over all human laws and governments. (Remember, it was the state which legally killed Jews in Nazi Germany and the state which legally denied blacks equal rights until 1954 in the U.S.)

Nancy tried to trash Deuteronomy on the basis of its other proscriptions, i.e. - planting other crops in a

vineyard (Deut 22:11), killing brides who are not virgins (Deut 22:21), etc. I've often countered these "Christian" antagonists by asking how they like their bacon and eggs - pork is forbidden by Deut 14:8.

But this is begging the question. These things may seem silly to us modern mortals but they may not be silly to their author. After all, human logic is no match for God's logic: "The heavens are as high above the earth as my ways are above your ways, my thoughts above your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:9). No, Deut 22:5 must be accepted as God's word and be dealt with on its own ground.

Deuteronomy is the Civil and religious law given to the Israelites by Moses and was formally recognized as part of The Law as early as the reign of Josiah (604 BC). It was certainly part of the Law as Christ and St. Paul knew it.

What did Christ say about the Law? "Do not imagine that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete them. I tell you solemnly, till heaven and earth disappear, not one dot, not one little stroke, shall disappear from the Law until its purpose is achieved." (Matt 5:17-18).

Until its purpose is achieved. . . and just what was the purpose of the Law? St. Paul describes the promise made to Abraham by God on the basis of faith and goes on to say: "What then was the purpose of adding the Law? This was done to specify crimes, until the posterity came to whom the promise was addressed" (Gal 3:19). The Law is not an end in itself. Rather it was a temporary guideline to govern the Jews until Christ established His new covenant. Christ said: "The sabbath (the Law) was made for man, not man for the sabbath" (Mk 2:27). And Christ demonstrated that the purpose of the old Law was completed at His coming by repeatedly violating it. He did this not to destroy the Law, but to display (for those who would see and listen!) the true meaning and depth and love behind the Law. He forgave sins, He ate forbidden foods, and He cured on the sabbath. He totally revised the concept of sin: "Nothing that goes into a man from outside can make him unclean; it is the things that come out of a man that make him unclean" (Mk 7:15). Eating certain foods, wearing certain clothes, planting certain crops, etc. Prescribed by the old Law are no longer sins. "It is from within, from men's hearts, that evil intentions emerge" (Mk 7:21).

The new wine of Christ's teaching could not be contained by the old wine skins of the Law (Matt 9:17). Therefore Christ declared Himself Master of the Sabbath (that is, Master of the old Law and thus having authority to complete it - Matt 12:8) and gave all generations new commandments: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also" (Matt 22:37-40). With these commandments, ratified by Christ's own death and resurrection, the old Law came to an end (Rom 10:4).

So what of Deut 22:5 and the "sin" of transvestism? Those who choose to place themselves under the old Law must keep the entire Law (Gal 5:3) and they will be judged by it (Rom 2:12). They must recognize, however, that the old Law cannot justify their existence "because no one can be justified in the sight of God by keeping the Law: all that law does is to tell us what is sinful" (Rom 3:20). "For if the Law can justify us, there is no point in the death of Christ" (Gal 2:21).

Those, however, who have faith enough to place themselves under Christ's new commandments are "free to serve in the new spiritual way and not the old way of a written law" (Rom 6:14), "for when there is no Law, sin is dead" (Rom 7:8).

And so sisters, do not feel guilt about being a transvestite. It is no sin. Instead, heed the words of St. Paul: "Let us go forward on the road that has brought us to where we are" (Phil 3:16).

- END -

(Edited from Serenity Newsletter, published by Serenity, c/o Nikki Bee, P.O. Box 307, Hollywood, FL 33022)

JAIL

As many of you already know, one of our members had the misfortune of having a rather bad experience with the law while dressed. I spoke to her about this experience and asked her to write some of it down so I could relay it to you. Who this gal is, is not important, but the story is. Her arrest was NOT in any way due to her cross-dressing. While she was in a bar a stranger made some unwanted advances and this led to a scene. The police were called. When they found out that she was not a female they had a field day. She told me that she did get some physical abuse but whether this was due to her being dressed or because of her resisting arrest is not too clear to me. The Ft. Lauderdale jail has a cell put aside for the 'gay' prisoners (cell #6). If any of you should be so unlucky you can expect to wind up in this cell regardless of your sexual preference. It's also a good thing that the jail issues clothing so she did not wind up in any cell in full dress. There was a considerable amount of discrimination shown to the prisoners of this cell by many of the guards. Things like verbal abuse and getting your meals last - which meant they would be cold. Her bail was set at about $300.00 and in order to get a bail bondsman to post it she would have had to prove that she could make the full bond within three days. She did report that the court was fair, just and honest. An experience like this can happen to any of us that venture out into public. The best way to avoid this is to go to places that accept us and if you should run across anybody looking for trouble the best thing to do is get up and leave. The masculine side of our personality may not like walking away from a challenge, but it's far better than going through an experience like the one this gal went through.

- Nancy

(Three editorials edited from the GIC Newsletter, published by the Gender Identity Center, 3715 West 32nd Ave, Denver, CO 80211 303-458-5378)

QUEEN

The phenomenal power of WORDs. Throughout history, those who have controlled the WORDs of civilization have controlled and shaped the events and lives of all to whom they were able to pass the WORDs. In times of crisis, simple slogans have become the rally cry, the battle cry, of armies and nations: Remember the Alamo!, Damn the Torpedoes, Full Speed Ahead! Even common events gain status by means of catchy slogans such as "I (heart) NY", and all of the variations that have spun off of that theme. But WORDs can also become very destructive tools.

Within our community, the term 'Queen' has been used very degradingly; "Drag Queen", "Closet Queen", " Queen", are sneeringly thrown our way. Soon we buckle-under to the contempt that others express in those phrases; we assume other's opinions are more correct than our own, and wrongly plead guilty to the charge.

How intriguing that in the game of Chess, which survives many periods of history and ideals of government, the Queen is by far the most valuable, and the most versatile, piece in the game! The ability for the Queen to control large areas of the field (board) assures respect for her. She is the playing-piece of choice when a pawn trade is possible.

So it should be with us! Our community has the mental tools to gain a level of power beyond our dreams. From the intuitive nature of our femininity, through the caring and nurturing desires that we can add to our working relationships, we can gain leadership and power to any working situation. Use the talents you have, to gain the power of the Queen for yourself and your life.

* * * * * *

OBSESSION

Wants and needs, dreams and desires. These are the things that make our lives interesting: these are the things that define our future goals in life. The ways in which we have used our lives has defined our present goal, the one we reach each day. But sometimes our wants, needs, dreams, and desires for the future collapse onto the present: we no longer see any future. Our wants, needs, dreams, and/or desires become so strong, so incessant and demanding that we are unable to act rationally until they are satisfied. The heart and soul of an obsession therefore is a lack of ability to see and plan for the future, no matter how near or far away that future may be.

Obsession is a common human condition. It can result in incredible achievements (Thomas Edison's quest to perfect an electric light bulb), or in incredible ridicule (Nicola Tesela's invention of radio, and radio-controlled devices), or in personal physical destruction (alcohol and drug dependencies).

In our community, obsession takes many forms, from needing our ears pierced and/or growing our fingernails long, to appearing in public dressed as our favorite dream-vision, the sexy teenage girl in a mini-skirt, halter top, etc., (regardless of our actual age and/or appearance). What are the future consequences of going to work with long nails, or pierced earrings? How do you expect others to act/react toward you, if you are not meeting their reasonable expectations about your appearance?

There is not a correct answer to these questions. The real question is: have you considered the future and what the results of going along with these obsessions can/will bring to you? Will sexy-style clothes bring you the kind of public acceptance you so passionately seek? Or will they bring you the ridicule you are so desperately trying to escape? Is the everyday life-style of the average woman really superior to the average lifestyle you now have?

There are two escapes from obsession. One is the absolute fulfillment of the need/dream/desire; the other is the rational exploration of the future consequences of the need/-dream/desire at a time when the obsessive feelings are not in control. Try fulfilling the need/dream/desire when it is not a necessity; dress when you don't really need to, or stay dressed (and awake active) after you are sexually satisfied. Explore the opposite-gender role in "normal" situations, vs "safe" situations. What are your future needs, really?

The human race is constantly chasing wants and needs, dreams and desires. That is how we grow and progress, that is how we make our lives better and happier. Be willing to chase all of your dreams! Be willing to try to achieve all of your goals! But be honest with yourself about the consequences (good and bad) of catching/attaining certain ones of them.

* * * * * * *

LOSS OF A FRIEND

We were grieved to learn of the recent death of our long time friend, Norm V. It was reported that his body was found May 31st in his east Denver home, where he lived alone. The cause of death was a heart attack.

The sudden and unexpected loss of someone whom we held dear and the fact that none of his friends among the gender conflicted and cross-dressing population knew of our loss until long after his body had been removed from the state by the family, brought tragically to our attention the mortality of us all and the fact that frequently we cannot be there for our friends at these times just because this side of our lives, and theirs, is kept secret.

Can this situation be prevented? I know that we need to think about it, and that we need to talk about it, and that we need to look for some way that we could be sure that those who care about us can be there to offer support and comfort in times of need, and that they can be there to express their grief if/when necessary.

If Norm's death is to serve any good purpose at all, perhaps it is that we all stop and take a look at the fact

that any one of us might die or incur serious illness or injury of such a nature that friends we have made within this community might never know what happened to us. At best, they might eventually find out, but be denied the chance to say good bye and have closure around the loss. Our friends within this community are a very valuable link with reality; they allow us to talk about ourselves, without hiding any facts. Make that link strong enough to endure any event in your life. Find a way to let your family and friends notify your other family and friends.

From actress Frances Farmer: "To have a good friend is the purest of all God's gifts, for it is a love that has no exchange of payment. It is not inherited, as with a family. It is compelling, as with a child. And it has no means of physical pleasure, as with a mate. It is, therefore, an indescribable bond that brings with it a far deeper devotion than all the others."

- END -

(Edited from The Emerald City News, published by The Emerald City, P.O. Box 31318, Seattle, WA 98103)

EDITORIAL
by Janice Van Cleve

D-R-C, probably the greatest three assets the Emerald City has. DRC makes us welcome at Seattle's finest places. DRC gets the attention of the City Council. DRC helps us conduct business. DRC gains us a hearing in professional circles. DRC is the source of our power: Dignity, Respect, and Class.

Dignity comes from within; from our pride and self esteem. We know that gender dysphoria is a special gift, prepared just for us. We have been given a special form of gender dysphoria: transvestism. It is ours to explore and develop, to enjoy and treasure, to sing about, to share with the world, and to be thankful for. Our gift is the equal of any other; we need to take second place to no one. We reject insults and slander, and speedily correct misused pronouns. Yet we can laugh at ourselves in the confidence that the world would be the lesser without us.

Respect grows from our dignity. Comfortable in our own self worth we can recognize and appreciate the worth of others. They may have different gifts but they have equal rights to enjoy and share their gifts as we do ours. We respect the security and privacy of our sisters, and the feelings of our vendors and their other customers. We accept all people and see even rejection as an opportunity to perfect our interpersonal skills.

Class displays our dignity. It sets us apart from the ordinary, the stereotype. It makes us an ornament in our society instead of a deviation. It is reflected in our clothing, our behavior, our business dealings. It doesn't take money to have class - it takes an attitude of pride; pride in ourselves and the transvestite community we represent. As a legitimate minority, we sometimes have to be "better than the best" - fortunately for the Emerald City that's no problem!

- END -

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(Edited from the Phoenix Monthly International Vol. VI, No. 5, published by the Gateway Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 62283, Sunnyvale, CA 94088)

GEORGIA CALLS IT QUITS

AN OPEN LETTER
by Georgia Saunders

In the more than eight years I have been editing and publishing the Phoenix and its predecessor, The Gateway, this is one of the two or three articles I can remember appearing under my by-line.

I'm tired.
I'm burned out.

For the years since I founded GGG/G and later the Gateway Gender Alliance, I have devoted approximately 60 hours per week to the operation of the organization. Those hours included answering the phone (which I haven't been doing lately); typesetting and editing articles for the Phoenix; attending local meetings (sometimes 3 or more a month); pasting-up the Phoenix, the Correspondence Directory; delivering them to the printer; picking them up from the printer; stuffing the envelopes and delivering them to the post office; answering 30 - 40 letters per week; forwarding the 40 - 50 letters generated by the people using the CD.

Generally I arrived home from work about 5:30, opened the GGA "office" and worked until dinner. After dinner I usually worked until two or so the following morning. Week-ends I put in between 12 and 16 hours each day working for GGA.

Obviously I had little time for anything other than GGA, but I felt the time was well spent.

About 20 months ago I undertook a long and complex project in my private sector work, the one which allows me to spend, out of my own pocket, between $200.00 and $300.00 a month on GGA. This project took hours away from GGA.

About 2 years ago I met my present Significant Other and subsequently moved from Sunnyvale to Oakland. The move added a 3 to 4 hour commute to my life - taking more of the time otherwise available to GGA. Now, instead of arriving home at 5:30 I arrive between 7:30 and 8:00 pm - depending on the crush of the evening commute. Needless to say, after spending that much time on the road in heavy traffic I'm not ready to spend another five or six hours working at the GGA "office".

Also, I now have other interests, involving my S.O., which are taking more of my time each day. One of our projects is the breeding and raising of tame, hand fed, colorful and happy cockatiels and budgies. There are other projects on the planning board which will require more of my time.

The only meaningful help I have ever received in all these years was from Lou Sullivan. Lou typed (before the advent of home computers) and delivered 'The Gateway' to the printers. When the printing was done each month I drove to San Francisco where Lou and I picked up, collated and folded it. I then returned home to stuff the envelopes and mail it out. Lou, a FTM, understandably dropped his association with GGA after his reassignment surgery. It isn't that I failed to ask for help but after being rebuffed so many times I ceased asking and continued to do the work unassisted.

Let me give you two simple examples fo the help I asked for over the years.

I approached several local people asking them to take turns answering the phone so I could have some free evenings. The plan was to use the call forwarding service available and have the incoming GGA calls forwarded automatically to their phone. No takers.

I once took a monthly run of the Phoenix and a supply of envelopes to a meeting of the San Jose Chapter and asked the 30 or so people attending to stuff the envelopes. They did, but not without complaint - "Hey, I come to these meetings to enjoy myself not work" was the major comment. Obviously the 20 minutes it took to stuff 800

envelopes (roughly 26 per individual) was an unacceptable workload. So, that was the last time I asked for that kind of help.

The preceding are not isolated incidents.

I have, for example, been asked a great many times why nothing concerning the 1985 Convention in Chicago, hosted by the Windy City Chapter, appeared in the Phoenix. The answer is quite simple. The many photos promised by the Chapter and, with the exception of the article sent by Ellen (OR-2), articles concerning the Convention promised by the attendees never materialized.

Over the years I have been described as "an uncaring, money-grubber running a for-profit organization" and "making a living off the TV/TS Community", "Only out for personal aggrandizement". these remarks usually come from people who do absolutely nothing for the TV/TS Community, GGA or me and complain because they aren't receiving, for free, what they feel is due them (I suspect they would kick if they were hung with a new rope). I gave freely of my time and money to make GGA a good organization for the Community. It is one hell of a good support organization. Certainly the best I can make it.

Certainly one can not consider me making a living off the TV/TS Community considering the money given by me to keep GGA afloat.

So, after much soul searching and a few buckets of tears I have come to the painful, heart-wrenching conclusion that I no longer have the desire to continue running GGA nor can I afford the time which I have given so freely to both the GGG/G (GGA's predecessor organization) and GGA over the past eight years. Therefore, as of July 1, 1986, GGA will cease to function.

What does this mean to you?

Quite simply it means you will have to support your local Chapter, if one exists in your area. If none exists, it means you will have to search out another organization to provide the support you need.

It means you will receive nothing from GGA after the June 1986 (Vol VI, No. 6) issue of the Phoenix.

Checks/money orders not yet cashed and those received after 1 March 1986 will be returned to the maker.

Any and all mail received, after 1 July 1986, at the Sunnyvale POB or the Oakland mail box, will be returned to the sender.

Now, how do we wind down GGA?

Quite simply by closing the mail box, and terminating phone service.

When GGA was formed in 1979 six people were involved in the decision to close out the Golden Gate Girls/Guys and rename it the Gateway Gender Alliance. Since none of those participating in the decision making process were willing to have his/her name appear on the forms required to register the GGA with the State of California, only my name appeared on the forms. The same applies to the Phoenix Monthly International and the TV/TS Resource Directory. Thus, the names belong to me.

GGA operates on a shoestring. The "office" is in my family room. GGA has no funds or property to distribute. As an organization, GGA owns nothing, not even its name.

What does the closing down of GGA mean to its Chapters?

Initially it means some will have to change their names since neither Gateway Gender Alliance nor its abbreviation, GGA, may be used without my permission and I cannot give that permission without compromising my position.

Hopefully each Chapter will continue to function and provide its members the support they need/want.

Now, about the Phoenix. If anyone out there is willing, and able, to devote the time, effort and money needed to continue the Phoenix need only contact me and perhaps we will be able to work something out to continue the magazine. Remember, before you consider continuing it that I have invested a great deal of my time as well as a considerable amount of my

funds in the magazine and would expect some remuneration.

I will continue to support "The Cause" and may return to an active role in future years.

* * * * * *

(**** Editor's Comment: How many people are there that could use a good support group? Millions? How many people could use good information on gender related issues? 10's of millions? Are we ever going to be able to build a support network and information service that will be adequate for the need by relying on volunteers? NO WAY JOSE!!! We have just lost Georgia Saunders, one of our Community's greatest contributors, because of burn-out. I do not criticize Georgia for feeling unappreciated, unsupported, angry, and burned-out. Rather, I identify with her, as do most people in leadership positions within the Community. I'm lucky. At least I get room and board for my efforts, and I have a wonderful core of Tiffany Club members who pitch in. Without their help there would be no Tiffany Club, Tapestry, or I.F.G.E. - I guarantee.

There are two points here: First, unrewarded and unsupported enthusiasm quickly dies. Second, we will never achieve our objectives by relying on volunteer labor.

The answer to the first problem: We must recognize that we are a community of sisters and brothers.... family. We have an obligation to each other, we must care about each other, and be willing to help each other from time to time. Agreeing with anyone else's preferences or lifestyles is not the point. Caring is. That means anyone who is a member of a support group can legitimately be asked to provide some support from time to time. As a leader, it is my job to help the Community, and to work with people who are also willing to help. I cannot allow anger and frustration to interfere with my purpose. People who are asked to help but refuse.... well, I won't get angry, but people who won't help are very low on my list of priorities.

The answer to the second problem: Paid employees - not private entrepreneurs - employees that are answerable to the Community. Volunteers can run small local groups and put out small newsletters, and if someone is really willing to kill themselves, volunteers and run a large group for a short time. If we are going to have an effective long-term program we must have salaried personnel. It's your basic Catch-22, you can't get the program without the money, you can't get the money without the program. To get the programs you must have leader-type volunteers, and dedicated volunteers to support the leader-type volunteers, and undedicated volunteers to support the dedicated volunteers. Everyone must understand the long-term objectives. We must do an effective and business-like job of managing traditional means of funding, i.e. memberships, functions, fund raisers, etc. In addition we must build businesses such as publications, rooming houses, profit oriented events, etc. We must do a better job of acquiring outside funding such as grants, etc. Above all else we must do a proper job of managing the entire program.

It is not impossible. In fact, our entire program, the Tiffany Club, Tapestry Publications, NACD, and the International Foundation for Gender Education was designed for that specific objective - to have a program that was of actual and effective service to the TV/TS Community, that was financially stable and self-perpetuating, and in the process have reliable employees, not volunteers vulnerable to burn-out. Here's how:

The Tiffany Club was organized as a strong local organization with the primary purpose of helping others. That created the right attitude. It was also formed to be a ready-made tenant for a facility. NACD was organized to provide the funding for such a facility and serve as landlord, thereby creating an income and a landlord that was answerable to the Community. The Tapestry was created to serve as an outreach tool and a unifying factor for the Community. It

was also designed to make money, and be the cornerstone for the development of our own publishing company thereby providing a source of income and jobs. The I.F.G.E. was designed to be the umbrella organization designed to keep the entire program on track and running as smoothly as possible.

Here's the structure: 1.) Local organizations and services providing memberships, tenants, and other sources of income. 2.) Publications which tap into the magazine and advertising market. 3.) Investment and management of income property. 4.) An umbrella organization which keeps everything on track, can apply for grants, sponsor fund raising programs to benefit all, etc.

It is my hope, and my ambition that we will never again lose good people like Georgia Saunders. We can do it, but with that possibility comes the warning that burn-out is one of our greatest enemies. I know. For many years I have been on that rocky edge of saying, "I can't do this any more. I quit." I haven't quit, but I know how easy it is to fall over that edge. This year it was Georgia.

For those of you who have put your time, energy, and love into helping others ... God bless you.

Love, Merissa Sherrill Lynn

- END -

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(Edited from 'The Emerald City News', published by 'The Emerald City' P.O. Box 31318, Seattle 98103. In turn, Emerald City News abridged the original article from 'The Transsexual Voice', published by Phoebe Smith, Ed., P.O. Box 16314, Atlanta, GA 30321. The author, Tova Freeman, may be contacted at P.O. 18834, Atlanta, GA 30326.)

TRANSSEXUAL SOCIAL NEEDS

-- by Tova Freeman

I have found little information on the social needs of transsexuals. There is an enormous amount of research on the physical needs: surgery, implants, hormones, therapy but almost nothing on a better education, improving skills to make a living in a competitive economy, a sense of pride, self respect and self identity, and solidarity with our sisters.

It was a mistake to drop out of college for metamorphosis reasons. At the time there was nothing in this world more important than surgery, hormones, image building, and achieving my dreams of becoming that beautiful ultra-glamorous female. My aspirations were sincere and true, but the time was wrong. I should have completed a career first. Eventually I did go back and now I have a respectable job, a dependable car, and a music career. Education and employment are just as necessary as surgery for the transsexual's progress.

Our social needs are also affected by law. Transsexuals are not protected. We are discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, and fired from our jobs. Most people in this world had to struggle for freedom. Transsexuals, I feel, will have to do the same. We must not alienate nor isolate, but unify and advocate our rights and get our aims heard. Coming together as a special interest group, we can get support from the public, from our families, and from our government.

I feel that our rights will not be attained by sex change surgery or by the pink powder puff, but by becoming involved as citizens in our political process!

Laws, education, and money are not enough. If we want to influence our society, we must have a sense of pride and self-respect. Many transsexuals lose their pride because they feel no self worth. We must abandon those feelings and attitudes of inferiority, helplessness, hopelessness, shamefulness and guilt. Pride is as universal a virtue as love. We must lift our heads up high and say "I am somebody" ... I believe it's not what you do but how you do it. Class and character will help us accomplish many goals and open many doors.

In conclusion, I would like to challenge you to do something about the social issues that confront us. I know we are all involved in our own personal lives, wants and desires. But you can participate and make an impact in society in some way. What can we do in order to create in ourselves a sense of inherent worth, honor, and dignity? How can we promote economic and political action for transsexuals? You can work with a support group or join a service organization where you can be heard. You can write your congressman and tell him how you feel. The idea is to do anything in which you can make life socially better for transsexuals in some small way.

- END -

(The following has been edited, with permission, from the booklet "Transsexualism: Health Insurance" published by Joanna M. Clark & Associates. For the set of three booklets ('Health Insurance', 'Bibliography', and 'Standards of Care') send $20.00 to: Joanna M. Clark & Associates, 31815 Camino Capistrano, Suite L, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675-3212)

SPECIAL REPORT: HEALTH CARE AND THE TRANSSEXUAL PART 1: INTRODUCTION

During the late 1970's private health plans became more generous in providing coverage for pre-operative evaluation, sex re-assignment surgery, related therapies and hospital costs. This was due in part to a number of events: 1.) the establishment of multidisciplinary gender programs, 2.) the work of dedicated professionals, such as Harry Benjamin, M.D., Paul Walker, Ph.D. and Donald Laub, M.D., 3.) the establishment of minimum "standards of care" by the Harry benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association, and 4.) a number of "positive" judicial decisions (1), ruling sex reassignment as non-cosmetic and medically necessary in properly selected patients.

Although Federal Employee Health Benefit Plans began excluding benefits for sex reassignment as early as 1974 (2), it was not until August 1979, following publication of the Meyer/-Reter study (3), with subsequent worldwide press coverage, that exclusion clauses began to appear on a widespread basis in privately issued insurance policies. The Meyer/Reter study was published shortly after the health Care Financing Administration

(HCFA) financed study (4), which was published without news media commentary or notice.

Following these events the race to publish studies critical of sex reassignment was on, with the National Center for Health Care Technology (NCHCT), and the Office of Health Research, Statistics and Technology (HRST) and Public Health Service (PHS), financing studies (5) which they have relied on heavily to instruct federal agencies that federal funds are not to be used to fund or pay for sex reassignment surgery. (6)

More recently a Federal District Court in Atlanta, Georgia, issued a ruling in the case of Rush v. Johnson (7), finding that transsexual surgery was experimental in nature and that Georgia's prohibition of said services to transsexual applicants was rationally related to a legitimate governmental interest in protecting the public health. The court also found that the state's determinations that sex reassignment surgery was not generally accepted by the professional medical community as a proven and effective treatment and that there was no authority of evidence that the surgery is safe and effective were reasonable. The decision effectively confirmed the position taken by HCFA in 1981.

Much publicized and often quoted, the Meyer/Reter study was the turning point, despite critical reviews (8)(9) and a general lack of acceptance within the professional community (10). The study has, however, been a rallying point for private individuals (11), bureaucrats (12), and government entities (13) seeking to end or severely limit sex reassignment surgery in the United States.

The trend today is towards a full denial of benefits related to transsexual surgery. A trend that is most unfortunate considering: 1.) the prev-

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alence of the phenomenon (14), 2.) the mental anguish characteristically suffered by the transsexual (15), and 3.) the vulnerability (16) of this group to abuse (17), discrimination (18) and exploitation (19).

Future articles in this Special Report series will discuss gender dysphoria syndrome, in particular transsexualism, and the modes by which private and government sponsored health plans, as well as the judicial system, have responded to the health insurance-/needs of the transsexual.

1 Doe v. Department of Public Welfare, 257 N.W.2nd 816 (Minn 1977) (Total exclusion of transsexual surgery from eligibility in the medical assistance program's Physician's Handbook was void under Federal law.); v. Parham4, 440 F. Supp. 383 (N.D. GA., 1977), rem'd 625 F.2nd 1150 (5th Cir. 1980), reh.den. 632 F.2d 1150 (5th Cir. 1981), rev'd. 565 F. Supp 856 (N.D. Ga. 1983); G.B. v. Lackner, (1978) 80 Cal.App.3d 64, 145 Cal.Rptr. 555 and J.D. v. Lackner, (1978) 80 Cal.App.3d 90, 145 CalRptr. 570 (Transsexual surgery is not cosmetic surgery).

2 "The general intent of FEHB plans is to cover only those services that are medically necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of illness or injury. Our decision--and that of our carriers--was that sex reassignment surgery does not fall within that intent in the sense that, rather than treating gender dysphoria, it simply renders it nonexistent. For essentially the same reason, FEHB plans would not pay benefits for a face lift prescribed as treatment of psychological problems caused by aging.... Since about 1974, our plans have specifically excluded services related to sex transformation. . . ." Letter from Assistant Director for Insurance Programs, Office of Personnel Management, United States of America, dated November 15, 1979.

3 Meyer, M.K., M.D. and Reter, D.J. "Sex Reassignment: Follow-Up," 36 Arch Gen Psychiatry 1010 (Aug 1979).

4 LeRoy, A. and Morse, M. "Development of an Information Data Base on Transsexual Surgery, Final Report (April 30, 1979) (HCFA Contract #500-8-0068). Available from Health Information Designs, Inc., 1925 K Street, NW, Suite 201, Washington, D.C. 20006.

5 Paper prepared for the National Center for Health Care Technology on the "Social and Ethical Aspects of Transsexual Surgery" (6/80); HRST-PHS Assessment Report, Vol 1, No. 4 (1981). Available from the Office of the Associate Director for Medical and Scientific Evaluation, Public Health Service, 5600 Fishers Lane, Room 17A-29, Parklawn Building, Rockville, MD 20857.

6 HCFA Transmittal 883, Dated October, 1981. "Although Transsexual surgery has been performed for at least 50 years, it is still considered experimental because of the lack of long-term, properly designed studies of the outcome of the procedures demonstrating their efficacy. Moreover, there is a high rate of serious complications (associated) with the surgery." HCFA-Pub. 14-3, 35-61.

7 565 F. Supp. 856 (N.D. Ga., 1983). See, also, Note 1, supra.

8 In Ulane v. Eastern Airlines, 581 F. Supp. 821 (N.D. IL., 1983), Judge Grady wrote: "Even Dr. Meyer, who has a jaundiced view of reassignment surgery, says that on the average the worst that can happen is that there is no improvement. It does not make them any better, it does not make them any worse. He tends to ignore the substantial body of medical literature which supports the proposition that sex reassignment surgery has on the whole been successful in alleviating the anxieties and the depressions that transsexuals without the surgery frequently have. Perhaps ignore is

the wrong word. He simply disagrees with the conclusions of these other experts in the field."

9 Fleming, M.; Steinman, C.; Bocknek, G., "Methodological problems in assessing sex-reassignment surgery: A reply to Meter and Reter,," 9(5) Arch Sex Behav. 451 (1980); See, also, Appendix B: Review of the Meyer/Reter study by Garrett Oppenheim, Ph.D. CONFIDE Personal Counseling Services Inc.

10 "Sex-Change Surgery: The Great Debate," 3(11) Sexual Medicine Today 18 (11/1979).

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(Photo credits: Bette Johnson, Kimberly Ng)

THE P-TOWN '86 EXPERIENCE... HOW SWEET IT WAS!

by
Bette Lee Johnson (TX-0543)

For many of us, the first stirrings of Spring start an awakening of a time to come, in May, when we shall meet again in Provincetown (P-town) for "our" week. Wardrobes are checked and rechecked, make-up is replenished, and plans are made for Cape Cod. There is also a stirring among those who have never experienced a Tiffany week in P-town, but who have only read of it. There is a wondering if that which has been written could possibly be true. Many who have secretly "dressed" alone or in a hotel room have a dream of "coming out" and a dream that P-town could come true. Indeed it can!

Why do we meet in Provincetown? There is a "uniqueness" about this town that makes it ideal for our week. First, P-town is a tourists' town, rich in history and scenic beauty. Second, it is essentially a "gay" community. Although most of us who cross-dress are not gay, we do represent an alternative lifestyle, and find acceptance and respect. Thus, we not only find a beautiful place to visit, we also find an opportunity to dress en-femme full time, day and night, with support from our peers and acceptance in the town. That is an emotionally rewarding experience, both for the first-timer overcoming awesome nervousness, and the veteran returning to renew old friendships and enjoy P-town.

Travel to P-town can be by land, sea, or air. Flying is the easy and fun way. After flying into Boston in a DC-10, it is fun to board PBA's eight-passenger plane and ride "co-pilot" for the twenty minute hop to P-town. Just

seeing P-town out the windshield on final approach over Cape Cod Bay whets the appetite for a wonderful week. A short cab ride, and we are at the Crown and Anchor (the C&A), headquarters for the outing.

There is nothing pretentious about the the C&A. It will never be listed by AAA, or rated in the Mobil Travel Guide. It is old, and the floors tilt, yet, it has a certain charm. It is centrally located, which makes it easy to walk to all the shops and restaurants and bars. It is on the waterfront, has a small beach, a pool and a sun-deck overlooking P-town harbor and Cape Cod Bay. But its charm is not in it's location, or scenery. Its charm is in its people. There are better hotels, but none has a manager like Ernest, or a housekeeper like Lillian. Ernest is a friend to all, and Lillian provides outstanding support to our group. She is a dear.

So many of us have "come-out" at the Crown, and that reason, if none other, makes this place, this little inn on Cape Cod, so very, very special. Fond memories are there, from the camaraderie of being with our friends en-femme to those wonderful evenings in the hospitality suite with Merissa playing the guitar. How sweet it is!

On Monday afternoon participants began to arrive and check in at the Crown. Since everyone seemed to have at least five pieces of large luggage, there was a luggage jam in the hall. Then it was up to the hospitality suite to check on planned activities for the week and renew friendships. Our first-timers were given a helping hand, assigned a 'big sister', introduced to veterans, and told what to expect in P-town.

That evening, many of us went to the Ocean's Inn for dinner. There were two or three tourist couples in the small dining room when fifteen of us, most dressed en-femme, invaded. They did not understand our lifestyle, but they readily accepted us, especially since we out-numbered them and were in a party mood.

Paula, a first-timer from Florida, had never met another member of our Community, nor had she seen someone dressed en-femme. She was not quite ready to "dress" in front of another

Shiela K. (PA), Laura G. (MA), Maureen T. (NY), Helen S. (OR)

person, much less go to dinner with a group. After her experience at the Ocean's Inn she was cross-dressed at every opportunity.

Tuesday was a day for shopping and getting acquainted or re-acquainted with "our" P-town. The day consisted of a leisurely breakfast at Pronto's, manicures at the West End Salon, and a happy day of exploring the town. (We found this great record store that specializes in oldies - but that's another story.) It was just so much fun to be en-femme and wander about, and shop without any problems at all.

That evening we dressed for dinner and congregated in the C&A's lounge. Paula was cross-dressed in public for the first time, and VERY nervous. (We've all been there before.) We took her under our protective wings and took her to the Beef & Lobster for dinner. She was excited - but scared. Then we watched her as the waiter came to our table and pleasantly said, "Good evening ladies." Her happiness lit up the room. How sweet it was!

Wednesday the "movers and shakers" got together for their first meeting. We talked of Tiffany's facilities, real estate matters, developing a perspectus, and other things. After the meeting it was off to dinner at a

delightful restaurant called the Plain and Fancy. There we were, all dressed, at tables for four and six, interspersed with the locals and tourists. What joy to be there, in public, without a snicker or a stare from anyone, and to again be greeted by a pleasant, "Good evening, ladies."

After a great dinner, we repaired to the cocktail lounge at the Ocean's Inn. Many of our people were already there, and the evening became filled with camaraderie, conversation, and happiness. We "closed" the bar and walked back to the C&A (a group of 6' ladies in fancy dresses and 3" heels, walking down the foggy street of a seaside village at 1 o'clock in the morning). We weren't in the least bit conspicuous.

Thursday morning the movers & shakers reconvened to work on a constitution for the International Foundation for Gender Education (I.F.G.E.). After that formidable meeting it was off for more shopping, sight-seeing, dining, drinking, and laughing. We closed down the bars.

Friday morning the movers & shakers met once again to work on the I.F.G.E. convention scheduled for March, 1987. After that meeting, after three days of solving the problems of the TV world, we finally had a chance to get dolled up and party.

We changed into cocktail dresses early, to attend a reception and dinner at the C&A. For the first time during the week our group was together, and it was impressive to see so many people in such beautiful attire. A representative from the P-town Police Department welcomed us, and mentioned that they were fully protective of us, as with any citizen. He also advised us on how to proceed if we were faced with the necessity of contacting them. Preston Babbitt (owner of the Rose & Crown) and Roger Baker (owner of 12 Center), representing the P-town Business Guild welcomed us, told us we were welcome in any of their members' stores, and invited us to come back to P-town again and again. (The Guild has over 200 members in P-town alone. We would have to come back again and again.) It was a strange but exciting feeling to be sitting there in a public place, all dressed up in our prettiest finery, having the police department telling us they would protect us and the stores and restaurants telling us we were welcome. I wonder if there's another place on earth where our people could have an experience like that.

After dinner we retreated to the C&A lounge for the Tony Rose Show. We laughed ourselves silly, and more than one of us fell victim to his wit. He got Laura Granger (Tiffany Club's president) to do a 'Dr. Ruth' routine which brought down the house (not to mention that Laura looked exactly like Tony's mother....Really!). Ask Cheryl Costa sometime about the perils of bringing a large purse to Tony's show. (In her purse Tony found disguises for Charlie Chaplin and Brooks Shields, a Polish goal post, Barbi Doll's baton, and on and on.) After the show, with our sides hurting from the laughter, we went back to Ocean's Inn to close down the bar. (After all, we didn't come to P-town to be dressed en-femme and sit in a hotel room. Most of us have been doing that for years.) One more day, greater than the day before, and how sweet it was.

Tony Rose (Entertainer, C&A)

By Saturday most everyone, even Paula, had over-come any anxieties they may have had, and had met most every one. There were no more strangers, and no more fear. It was time to party.

Saturday began as a leisurely day, sunny and comfortable... a nice time to unwind from three days of business meetings and closing bars. However, by

Imagine being Tony Rose, coming on stage, facing your audience, and THIS is your audience. L-R Helen S. (OR), Dorothy F. (CAN), Helen T. (NH), Karen N. (ME)

Laura G. (Or is it Dr. Ruth, or Tony Rose's mother?)

mid-afternoon it was time to rally once again. First it was into our beach wear and bathing suits for an afternoon reception/pool party. The party was a relaxed affair, but you could feel an energy building. People were singing, and taking pictures, and sharing hugs, and laughing a light happy laughter. People were together, enjoying each other - and themselves.

After the pool party each of us entered a brief period of metamorphosis to prepare for the evening's banquet. A few hours later at the Plain & Fancy we re-emerged, one by one, like a hatch of shining butterflies flitting about the lounge. Everyone was so beautifully dressed, and so feminine.

Two performers from the Pilgrim House's show "Love That Drag" had heard about Laura's impromptu imitation of 'Dr. Ruth' from the night before, and came to the cocktail party and invited her to do it again during their show that night. They even reserved the front row seats for our group. Our evening was set: Cocktail hour, formal banquet, a show (starring one of our own), capped by an after-hours party in the hotel. It was going to be a very exciting evening.

During the banquet Merissa was presented a special award, sergeant stripes, in recognition of her keeping everyone and everything on time and in line, and making P-town an outstanding success.

After dinner it was off to the Pilgrim House for the show. The lounge was packed with an audience of about 300 casually dressed people when in we walked, dressed to kill. We proudly paraded the entire length of the lounge to our designated seats up front. Needless to say we created quite a stir. Laura (Dr. Ruth) brought down the house.

After the show we visited with the entertainers then headed back to Ocean's Inn (naturally) for a nightcap. We closed down the bar with a bang - literally. A heavy thunderstorm struck P-town. The sky was alight with lightning, buildings shook from thunder, the streets were awash with a torrential downpour, the bar was closing and we were a 15-minute walk from the C&A. Our prospects did not look good. But, Siobhan came to our

Merissa receiving her Sgt's stripes from Shiela K. (PA) and Pam M. (NY)

rescue and shuttled us five at a time back to the C&A. What a way to finish a fantastic evening. Memories are made of this!

We joined the after-hours party for a post-nightcap nightcap, enjoyed a 'Smothers Sisters' routine by Pam and Sue ("Mom always did like you dressed!"), and finally .... finally, after a very long, exhausting, but fantastic day, retired for the evening, an evening we never wanted to end.

Most of us had some difficulty getting up the next day. Somehow we managed, and struggled to breakfast at Sebastian's, or Pronto's, or wherever, then back to the C&A for a farewell poolside reception. Sunday afternoon was sad, for many of us were leaving P-town. So many friendships had been made and renewed, so many wonderful memories. It was bittersweet, and yes there were tears, tears of sadness and joy.

There were no good-byes, just "au revoir," auf weiderseben," "until we meet again."

...HOW SWEET IT WAS!

- END -

Robin E. (MA) & Cindy M. (AZ) out on the town

Micheline J. (CAN)

Carol J. (MA)

Jeri C. (WA D.C.)

On the beach

(Edited from the Northwest Chapter Newsletter, published by the NWGA, P.O. Box 4928, Portland, OR 97208)

CAPE COD - CHRISTMAS IN MAY

by Ellen S.

Did you ever want to visit beautiful Cape Cod, that little peninsula of sandy beach that extends ninety miles out into the Atlantic Ocean? Well, I had never given it much thought until I found out eight years ago that it was the site of two annual week-long crossdressing events held for all make-believe girls. At that discovery, my interest in this lovely part of the world increased 1000%. In late May I was finally able to open a belated Christmas gift and become a part of a wonderful seven day adventure of being a lady in a resort town that certainly knows how to make would-be girls very welcome.

Provincetown is the name of this quaint little resort village of gorgeous blue ships and Atlantic Ocean waters to match, located right at the very tip of Cape Cod. This town and its residents served as Santa Claus to me and a group of over one hundred ladies in late May.

Fun in the sun at the hotel pool and on the sandy beaches... Shopping excursions through the various interesting shops in the narrow streets of downtown Provincetown... Cocktail parties, lovely buffets and candlelight dinners at the wonderful restaurants that abound there, and moonlight walks along the shore were all part of this special adventure.

I have experienced many pleasures while in my femme persona, but the simple joys of this experience were quite unique. The welcome from the congregation of the local Unitarian Church as we attended Sunday Services in our feminine finery. The genuine smiles from the P-town merchants as we shopped and dined at the various establishments. Even the gentle sea breeze became a part of the positive experience as it softly blew our skirts against our knees and legs as we walked

with Merissa

down the old and narrow streets of picturesque P-town. These were the pleasures that will remain with me for a long time to come.

Along with the fun, members of the Steering Committee of the newly formed International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE) held their final planning sessions for the 1987 National Convention for crossdressers to be held in Chicago from March 4 - 9, 1987. Therefore, I was able to combine business with pleasure to make the week an even more fulfilling experience.

There were sisters from all over the U.S. in attendance for this wonderful week which was sponsored by Merissa Sherrill Lynn and her Tiffany Club each year.

Two lovely buffets, a Saturday banquet at one of P-town's fine restaurants, two professional Night Club Shows, and a Sunday afternoon pool par;party to close the week ended a wonderful time on Cape Cod.

While attending these wonderful week's activities, I was again made aware of the beautiful people who share in our interests in cross-dressing as females. At dinner on Saturday evening I became acquainted with a neat sister named Penny. After only 30 minutes of conversation, she invited Pattee (my wife) and myself to visit her and Flo (his wife) at their home in northern Maine near Bar Harbor. When I asked Penny why, after such a short friendship she had asked us to visit, her answer was, "Well, I guess we just hit it off. Anyway, we are sisters aren't we?"

- END -

(Edited from the Transvestian, published by Tania Volen, Inc. 200 Main St., Tennent, NJ 07763-0200 201-920-3400)

'BE ALL YOU CAN BE'

by Kay Gould

The fourth annual 'Be All You Can Be' weekend is now history, and in itself made new history in the cross-dressing world.

For those who don't know, the 'Be All' weekend is jointly sponsored by four organizations, Chi Chapter, Paradise Club, Crossroads, and TransPitt. It's an all volunteer effort, hosted and organized this year by Chi Chapter. The Be all is intended for novice and advanced TVs jointly, with emphasis on the novice. It involves almost a full year of planning with literally hundreds of hours of work by several dozen people in other cities. This year's even, however set a new record for non-professional TV affairs. The record was set when the largest attendance ever, over 190 registrants, filled the entire hotel for the four-day event. Never before has there been such a large gathering of amateur crossdressers.

The organizers obtained the best instructors, finest speakers, and most qualified discussion leaders, all of whom were combined with an exceptional social schedule. Truly, the program was designed to make it a fun-and-excitement-filled weekend.

Let me give you a recap of the schedule:

Thursday - Check-in and registration starting in the morning with many arriving already dressed, as did I. Cocktails at 6 p.m., followed by a huge, elegant buffet in the main ballroom. This was followed, in turn, by hospitality receptions in different rooms given by the sponsoring organizations. The parties lasted till midnight.

Friday - Breakfast at 8 a.,m., followed by a most intense makeup training session. This session, 'Be A Beauty', was conducted by Katrina. This was videotaped and covered every important aspect of day and night makeup. Katrina was also available later on for consultations on an individual basis. She also had a makeup boutique with more than enough for sale. So many girls took advantage of this that it surprised even Katrina. Then we went to lunch where we were treated to the best of Betty Ann Lind. Betty Ann is one of the grande dames of the movement and her topic, 'The Woman Within', really emphasized the giving and feeling aspect of crossdressing. Her perspective is that to be a full woman, one must live the inner giving, loving, feeling aspects of the true woman or all you are is a "satin doll." This was a good perspective in contrast to the earlier paint and powder session. After lunch we broke for a while and then went on to sessions on hair care conducted by Rachel. She is an expert in this area. Best of all, many girls were able to try on new wig styles and when they found one they liked, were able to purchase it and have it styled right then on them as women.

By now the crowd had swelled to almost 130 and included many of the 35 spouses who were in attendance.

Then we moved on to the next session, 'Be A Model', conducted by Eve and Carole, a former fashion model and wife of a crossdresser, has appeared on stage, in print and in commercials on television. Eve is a former 'Ms Dream' and a current 'Ms Fantasia Fair'. We all spent the next two hours working on every aspect of training in feminine poise. As well, we were taught modeling, walking and posing. These things are so important in passing and it was a wonderful opportunity to polish even my own skills.

Next we moved on to the segment, 'Be In Style', covering color coordination, jewelry selection and accessory selection. Ultimately, it was once again time to dress for cocktails and dinner.

We knew we would be headed out to the Baton Show Lounge so everyone was in their hottest outfit, or so it seemed. Dinner was magnificent, with good service and more warm talk. Everyone was busy exchanging experiences since last we got together. Much table hopping went on as people continued to warm up and relax. You could see the effects of the makeup, wig and jewelry sessions earlier in the day. This was as intended by the main organizer, Naomi of Chi Chapter. The 'Be All' has as its goal the emergence of full aspects of the femme within with assistance from the professionals who conducted the sessions. There were several who were dressing in public for the first time. They glowed with inner and outer beauty. I felt as though some had even cried at the sight of their femme self emerging from what, in some cases, was more than 40 years of hiding and guilty repression. Little did they know that everyone there had in some fashion emerged as emotionally as they did that night.

By 8:45 p.m., it was time to board the buses to downtown Chicago and the Baton Show Lounge. The Baton puts on one of the best female impersonation shows in America. This evening, however, was to be really special. With more than 120 TVs in the audience, many of them out for their first time, the entertainers at the Baton really did it up. Everyone on the Baton staff was in top form from Leslie, Sherri, Alana, Ginger and Shante, to the bar crew. Then, after a wild show, the buses took most of the gang home. Some of us went on to the Fire Island Club for more fun, dancing and even a boat ride. Included in that group were Yvonne, Barbara, Rita, Susan, myself and more I can't remember. We finally made it home and hit the sack by 3 a.m.

Saturday - The day broke clear, with the first sun and a relief from the cool temperatures. We started off with another continental breakfast, followed by more interpersonal sessions. The 'Be My Love' segment was an all-morning affair conducted by Howard and Barbara Ruppel. Jointly, they operate the Center for Sexual Growth and Development in Mt. Vernon, IA. Their professional backgrounds in the study of and counseling on sexual matters and experience qualified them to lead the sessions. The class focused on communications: learning how to read signals, handle encroachments, respond to fears and working together with a spouse or friend to resolve issues before they reach the crisis stage.

After a full morning, with the crowd now at its maximum, we broke for lunch. Our luncheon speaker was Mariette Allen, the famous photographer, who has specialized in covering crossdressers of all types for many years. She presented an hour-long slide show which was spectacular.

Then we broke and reassembled in two groups. The spouses met with Barbara Ruppel for a special session on coping and living with a TV. There was also a gathering limited to crossdressers only, to discuss the sexual aspects of crossdressing. This session, 'To Be Or Not To Be', was to be an intimate feelings class. It was a dynamic session filled with the open discussion of the sexual aspects of crossdressing. It was chaired jointly by Elaine Willey, Renee Kessel and myself. I acted as moderator and led our audience through the whole gamut of experiences and desires in this area. People began to share experiences openly and got to see the degree to which others had experienced or wanted to experience similar feelings. Virginia Prince was there to give counterpoint and balance.

The more than 75 active participants in this session expressed a wide variety of experiences and learned a great deal as well. We had to call a halt at 4:30 for dinner.

The bar was open at 7 p.m. and for dinner the theme was 'Be A Party Girl'. It was wild and the outfits were so hot. The prime rib dinner was great but then at 9 p.m. it was time for the fashion show. The fashion show was M/Ceed by Eve, who was a stunning sight herself. First the attendees modeled more than 20 gorgeous dresses including a bridal gown. After that, the gowns of Paul Brune, a designer for many years, were on.

There were 10 gorgeous gowns, each more beautiful than the last. But it was not over, as next we began the 'Be A Star' segment. The participants put

on 19 great acts, but by far and away the greatest was the closing "I Am What I Am," from La Cage aux Folles. It was sung by Eve who was in fur and a full-length white sequinned gown. It brought tears to many eyes, including my own. After thank-you's and recognition of all the hard work done by so many, the party was over. Most of us moved to the bar for dancing and partying till last call. The next day it was time for the farewell champagne brunch. For the first time, many of the participants saw their friends without femme clothes. For others, the fantasy continued after the last day. In my opinion this was the top TV event of the past 10 years. Next year promises to be even greater. Top kudos have to go to Naomi, Grace, Lindsay, Johnnie, Elaine, Laura, Milesa, Renee, Evelyn, Ann Marie, Sunny, Sheila, Deanna, Eve, Christine, Joy, and many others. Watch out for next year.

- END -

(**** Check 'Coming Events' for time and address for the next 'Be All'.)

(Edited from the Chicago Sun Times)

MEET THE NEW GIRL NEXT DOOR

by Ernest Tucker

Wrapped in a silver-sequined gown with spaghetti straps, Eve glided over to Kathy, stretched out a muscular arm and tapped the model with a wand seemingly borrowed from Glinda, the Good Witch of Oz.

Kathy, wobbling in oversized pumps like a little girl who raided her mother's closet, paused on the imaginary runway to display her gray business suit and blouse. "Isn't she beautiful," Eve cooed into the microphone while Kathy worked up an uncertain smile, then shyly retreated as the women in the audience applauded.

It was a twinkling rite of passage, the first time Kathy - born a plain-looking male named Kelvin - appeared in public dressed as a woman. The happy female faces were not members of the Junior League but a gathering of 190 cross-dressers (heterosexual male transvestites) and their wives who convened recently at an Elk Grove Village motel.

"We're not a bunch of sleazy perverts. We're normal guys, whatever that means," laughed Lindsey, a 40 year-old from Cleveland who was accompanied by his wife. But this is no Monty Python drag routine.

"You go through life knowing you're different, feeling it was wrong," said a cross-dresser identified as Rhonda. "You have to tell someone."

The participants got that chance at the "Be All You Can Be" weekend, four days to be themselves: men dressed like women from the tops of their styled wigs to the tips of their four-inch-high heels. Naomi, the "second self" of a male Chicago attorney, described his decades of crossdressing in this way: "It does wonders for the soul. It is more than fantasy. It is role playing."

They are careful to protect their male identities, and are leery of being photographed except when "disguised" because of the public belief that they must be either homosexuals or mentally ill. They insist they are neither.

As many as 100,000 American males may indulge in this practice, said Richard F. Docter, a California State University psychologist. He excludes transsexuals (those who have given up all male identity) and fetishists (those usually confined to wearing women's underwear) from his estimate. And he agrees cross-dressers are arguably normal.

"There is no evidence whatever that these people (heterosexual cross-dressers) are psychologically any different than anyone else, said

Docter. "This is a very exciting, erotic practice for them....It is purely a matter of judgment whether you want to call it sick or not."

Judgment, or prejudice, breeds secrecy and suspicion. Docter faults his professional brethren for calling cross-dressing a psychiatric disorder. He calls it discrimination.

"Society has absolutely nothing to fear from heterosexual transvestites," said Docter. Still, the practice can be a barrier to military service, career progress and sustained marriage. Things that seem simple, like using a washroom, can lead to arrest, as it did for one cross-dresser who strayed into a suburban Chicago men's lavatory. In extreme cases, despair and loneliness can lead to suicide.

Cross-dressing can also, according to participants, lead to a fullness denied by a single gender. Some wives believe it leads to a closeness and understanding not possible from a macho partner. The "femme" side completes the individual, re-uniting the man-woman split into a whole person.

"Sex was never better," said Sue, from Wisconsin, about her husband, Rhonda. An added bonus: She gets to borrow his makeup. Or, as Barbara from Indiana said, being a cross-dresser gives her husband, Yvonne, "a better understanding of the female."

This is not to say there aren't problems in practice or perception. Barbara said that when she met her husband (call him Joe), he was dressed as a man. One night, on a date, Joe told her there was someone she should know, and showed her a snapshot of a woman.

"I didn't realize who it was. I thought it was the competition," she said, steeling herself for a fight. Then Joe told her it was him. "I had a lot of difficulty dealing with the transvestism," she said. "But it's part of him." They worked it out, and finally she convinced Joe to go shopping at Woodfield Mall in Schaumburg dressed as Yvonne.

"We were sitting there, sipping coffee at a McDonald's and he kept saying 'Here it is in the middle of the day, and nobody notices,'" said Barbara. "My reaction was that nobody cares."

But society does have fears, and should, of some men dressed in women's clothing, a suspicion exploited in the classic Hitchcock film "Psycho," where momma's boy Anthony Perkins resolves his attraction to a woman by cutting her shower short in one of the most memorable film murders. The same hemline and plotline was verified in Brian De Palma's "Dressed to Kill."

"It is very common for men who commit serious crimes to also cross-dress," but those men have violent personal histories. They are completely distinct from the job-holding males, often married, who join cross-dressing clubs, Docter said. These clubs are part of a national network of support groups which now list about 1,000 dues-paying members who often correspond through post-office box addresses.

"If we put all cross-dressers in the same category, and call them dangerous, it's like doing this to blacks, newspaper reporters or psychologists. It's just incorrect logic," Docter said.

Logical or not, such men can be refused entrance into the military (although Naomi and others talk of a bomber pilot during the Korean War who wore nylons and a garter belt under his flight suit); government employees are denied security clearances, and professionals may face blackmail. The paranoia starts because no one understands why men feel the urge to put on lipstick, stuffed bras and skirts.

"We're pretty much in the dark," said Anne Fausto-Sterling, a Brown University biology professor who has just written 'Myths of Gender', a book exploring sex roles in society. While Sterling concludes there may be many different avenues to cross-dressing, all ways depend enormously on learning.

Both Sterling and sexologist Howard Ruppel Jr. of Mount Vernon, Iowa, reject the biological explanation for the roles, one favored by many crossdressers who claim it's like being left-handed - harmless but different.

Studies linking character traits to genetics - boys aggressive, girls passive - have been misinterpreted because boys and girls can be both. It is society that asks "Is it a boy or a

girl?" from birth and tries to teach behavior.

To hear participants talk, it is clear there is no single source that taught them to wear feminine clothes, although many speak of an early experience, anywhere from 4 to 11 years of age, when the touch of a soft garment was more appealing than rough male garb. One man recalled sitting as a child with his mother when she asked him to pick some clothes from a Sears catalog. He flipped back from the boys outfits and pointed to a party dress. "I want that!" he said. His mother slammed the book shut.

Interestingly, there are few heterosexual females who have the urge to dress up as men, experts said, simply because women in our society have the permission to throw on men's clothing like jeans and flannel shirts. "We are just not comfortable with men appearing as females," said Docter.

Many, branded as "sissies," quickly learn to stop the practice, rediscovering it later in life as adults. Others come across it in unpredictable ways. Linda, a 45-year-old professional from the East Cost, said his first wife dressed him in a plaid skirt, white blouse and wig for a Halloween party in 1960.

"That set me off. I don't know why. Maybe because I had a great time at the party," he said. Then the problems began. For 20 years, Linda kept his secret second identity to himself.

"The years of guilt. It was like walking across the pit of hell," he said, shaking the strands of his styled wig. Then he read an article in a transvestite publication and understood his impulses. His first marriage eventually ended, a problem many cross-dressers encounter and try to avoid the second or third time around by making clear what their urges are.

His second wife is more supportive. That is true of Eve, who said he struggled for years in manly sports, eventually playing on a World Cup soccer champion just to overwhelm female feelings. His wife Carole is the main support in his life, Eve said.

"And she has the best of everything: a boyfriend, a best girlfriend, a lover, a husband," said Eve, who makes certain not to mix his Chicago-area salesman's role with cross-dressing. For security reasons, he does not want his wife "the laughing stock of the community."

Still, cross-dressers are not without their own laughter. Because of the need to fight fears, there is the humor of survival. The "Be All" name was a spoof of the familiar Army recruitment ad. And the program schedule for the four-day gathering listed an "Eat, drink and be merry (Mary)" dinner before a trip to a female impersonator show. The weekend apparently was a success. The bigger issue of living in a hostile society remains unchanged.

Linda, with facial makeup hiding a twice-shaved beard, stood in a black lace gown and smiled at the "Be All." "Even if they discovered a pill that would rid me of this tomorrow I wouldn't take it. I'm having too much fun."

- END -

(**** The 'Be All You Can Be' convention is co-sponsored by the Chi Chapter, Crossroads, Paradise Club, and TransPitt organizations. Refer to the 'Coming Events' section for addresses and scheduling.)

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(Edited from 'The Transsexual Voice', published by Phoebe Smith, P.O.B. 16314, Atlanta, GA 30321)

RULES FOR TRANSSEXUAL WOMEN
(Because Your Mother Never Told You, That's Why...)

by A.F. America

1. Try to shut up about it once in a while...we all realize it's really amazing and sometimes terribly draining, but there are other things that you could comment on occasionally, just to show that, despite your medical problem, you are still in touch with the rest of humanity.

2. It wouldn't hurt to develop a sense of humor...tragic comedy had its roots in ancient Greece, no doubt written by a pre-op.

3. Make friends - and keep them. At the same time, remember that all transsexuals did not come from the same cookie-cutter. Never assume that because you are of the same phenomenon, that you are of the same mind.

4. Try not to take obvious fashion risks. No woman should, but some of us need to be reminded. You know who you are.

5. Never, and I repeat, never pretend to have diminished intelligence in the presence of a man to whom you are attracted in the false hope of becoming "his little fluffhead". We generally come through all this with our brains intact, no-with-standing current jokes to the contrary. This behavior generally irritates people, and makes them spit up.

6. Please do not demonstrate to me how your voice used to sound...EVER!

7. Relax a little. There are millions of misguided souls out there rolfing and self-actualizing themselves into a lather. At least you know what's wrong with you.

8. Stop whining. It makes lines.

9. There is not a single documented case of waking up a genetic woman after having asked God to do so the previous night. Develop patience. Don't stop asking, just be patient. She's very busy, but She will get to you.

10. You only pass this way once (no pun intended), why not pass in as dignified a manner as possible? If people laugh at you, laugh back at them. Learn to be happy with yourself at last!

- END -

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ON BEING --

AND SURVIVING IT

by K. F. Jordache

Feeling one's virility is perceived in many ways, and the more introspective the man, the easier it is to perceive. Personally, I am able to feel how 'male' I am when I am witnessing the behavior of women: from something as simple as the way they turn their head to look behind them, to all of the ways that they touch another person. Even more so, I can feel the definitude of my maleness whenever I am so privileged as to have a woman share her thoughts with me -- her views of life and love and hate and sex and the conundrum resulting from the curious fusing of them all. She continually astounds me! Women think of things in ways that men never do, they see things from a different angle, feel things on a different plane. I often wonder how women see me. Sometimes I seem to know, but I am never really sure.

I am a transsexual, and I am a man. The latter, for me, is the more significant of the two. Still, I cannot divorce myself from the gravity of my transsexual condition no matter how well-adjusted, no matter how loved, or how reconciled I may become. It is something which affects my existence in every way imaginable. An experience, for instance, as common as being seen in public is something for which the transsexual has to meticulously prepare. He (or she) must strive to affect a quality of 'normalness' in as much as he does not wish to attract attention to himself. While sexual identity is something that should not even come into question due merely to having been seen -- possessing a static identity is something that the average person is able to take for granted. The transsexual, however, takes nothing for granted.

Another fact that strikes me -- the transsexual -- hard in the consciousness is that transsexuality is not taken seriously enough by the medical profession as a whole. The topic is handled with gross understatement. People are dying, unable to live if they are unable to love themselves. Society in general remains ignorant to the particulars and the cruciality of the syndrome; and ignorance often lends itself to contempt and alienation.

I sometimes walk the streets of various cities, ultimately masculine, immaculate, daring to walk alone. I sometimes go undetected of being transsexual, and am seen as a man; unique, individual, but like any other man. It is wonderful to feel so nondescript. There are times when I snatch for myself moments of boyish contentment, (the kind boys get just for being boys), and I assure you that they are nothing monumental -- mere tid bits of experiences such as huddling on the corner with a male friend who laughs and smokes and talks or whispers and loves to watch the girls. Experiences such as playing a good game of basketball, or working out at the city gym, or listening to a buddy talk of never knowing a woman's mind, of thinking that he loves her and being nervous about women and about love, and my knowing exactly what he means! Experiences such as wrestling with another man, fighting as long and as hard as I can, feeling the struggle of muscle against muscle, will against will, crouching, advancing, gaining the advantage and breathing pride, and sometimes becoming overpowered - pushed to the ground, only to struggle and rise again, then shaking hands...to know that vigor of friendly combat. Tid bits, I tell you, nothing monumental at all.

When I am alone I enter into that deep dark chasm of reflection where the acts and opinions of others come together with cognizance of my own. I see the undeniable and traumatic consequences of my transsexual condition, know what I am up against within and without. I realize that peril is weaved about me like a tenacious web, but my strength does not desert me. My quest for dignity and recognition, (which is, in essence, the will to live), is single-minded. I am convinced that no one can tell me that I am not a man, except myself!

- END -

(Edited from the 'Seahorse Victoria Newsletter', published by Seahorse Victoria, G.P.O. Box 2337V, Melborne, Vic. 3001 Australia)

THE MARRIED TRANSVESTITE

by Louise

Even without the complications of transvestism, a perfect marriage, if it exists at all, is an extremely rare phenomenon. Some adjustments to their patterns of life by the partners are needed to make the marriage work. A successful marriage is where the partners can make these adjustments and be contented. Such a marriage is a very rewarding and worthwhile goal.

It is essential that both the partners make their contributions towards this goal. Marriage is a partnership. Both partners have their own psychological needs. Some of these are more important to them than others. Understanding of each other's needs is the first step to obtaining this goal, and free discussion is the way to get this understanding. Any need should not be belittled by either the one in need (out of love for the other) or by the other because he/she can not understand it. We all have different ideas about things, and we must respect the ideas of others, and most importantly, the ideas of loved ones.

Each partner should feel free to raise any matter concerning their psychological needs at any time. These needs may not stay constant. Sometimes, a better understanding of them may be obtained, leading to a strengthening or reduction of that need. This openness with each other keeps a marriage healthy.

The keynote is tolerance of each other's views, and a readiness to compromise on both sides. This is the essence of mutual love. Discussion, tolerance and compromise are needed -- very much so when one of the partners is a transvestite.

Often the transvestite enters marriage, while knowing that he/she has obtained pleasure and/or arousal in wearing the clothes of the other sex, but not understanding why, believes that this will pass once he/she is married. He/she therefore sees no reason for raising the subject of his/her crossdressing before marriage.

When, as is often the case, there is a fetishistic content to his/her transvestism, in the early ecstasy of the marriage full arousal usually occurs without this fetishistic stimulus. However, after a while the fetish link with transvestism returns, and can even act in reverse -- arousal can raise thoughts of transvestism.

In any case, the transvestism has not been cured by marriage, and it returns, often strengthened by the presence of the spouse's clothes.

Because of the latitude in women's clothing, the female transvestite can readily provide an outlet for her transvestism without upsetting her partner. However, the male transvestite has no such easy outlet. If he shows a desire to wear women's clothing, the natural reaction of the wife is to feel upset. "I married a man! I don't want to be married to a woman!"

Unless the transvestite husband is in fact a transsexual, she has married a man. It is up to the husband to show that in all essentials he is a man, and, with love, try to persuade her to learn about transvestism so that she can understand his need to cross-dress.

The transvestite drive can be mild or strong. It is not a sickness. Different authorities give various causes for transvestism, and which may apply to any particular case is usually far from clear, but this is too big a subject for inclusion in this article. It is sufficient to say is that there is no known cure. Some degree of suppression may be possible, particularly if the transvestite drive is mild. However, the drive would only be suppressed, not eliminated, and tension results. Attempts to suppress a strong drive to cross-dress will create such strong psychological tensions as may lead to breakdown of the marriage if not of the health of the partners.

If the drive is mild, then occasional cross-dressing will satisfy the transvestite. But with a strong drive, more frequent cross-dressing

will be needed to avoid tension build-up.

Tensions feed on themselves and on other incidents too minor to be otherwise noticed until they become great enough to be disastrous to the marriage. Remember that it is the children who suffer from a marriage break-up.

When all is said and done, how harmful is the husband's predilection for wearing women's clothes? The wife did not, we hope, marry him for what he wears. She married him for their mutual love, to care for each other, to share life's joys and troubles, and for each other's company and consideration. What he wears is, really, irrelevant to any of these. Nor does it mean that he loves his wife any the less if he wears nighties instead of pajamas. An understanding wife will get more love, certainly not less.

Understanding and acceptance by the wife of her husband's need to cross-dress will bind the marriage more firmly. Non-acceptance will almost certainly drive the transvestism into concealment. Concealment is totally wrong, as a husband and wife should have no such secrets from each other. It generates guilt tensions. It invests the harmless act of cross-dressing with quite unwarranted "wrongness". It involves the cross-dresser in deceptions which he knows are not right. There is the constant fear of being "found out". If the wife has difficulty in fully accepting her husband's need to cross-dress, then compromise is the only answer. It is then up to the husband to do his part towards the compromise. He must show his wife that he appreciates any sacrifice she is making on his behalf. Also he should show that he understands what being feminine involves -- the burdens of housework, cooking, ironing, etc. -- and not just seek the glamour side of his cross-dress role. If he does not do this, then his wife will almost certainly have feeling of jealousy to add to any resentment of her husband's transvestism.

Should the children be told? It is marvelous how much children know without being told by their parents. Openness is usually best. They will have heard about transvestism, or will soon hear quite a bit. It is coming more and more into the open -- e.g. the film "Tootsie", and various interviews on television and radio. Openness allows discussion and proper understanding by the children, instead of picking up wrong ideas from their contemporaries.

There are many happy marriages where the transvestite father is fully accepted by the whole family. This ideal can only be achieved by real mutual love between the husband and the wife, and full understanding by the wife of the nature of transvestism and the needs it produces in the transvestite.

- END -

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(Edited from Seahorse Newsletter, published by Seahorse Victoria, c/o GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne, Victoria, 3001 Australia)

TELLING THE CHILDREN

(Adapted from an article written by Joy for 'Fanfare', published by the Phoenix Society, South Africa)

To tell or not to tell - that is the question! Telling the children is probably the most sensitive area in the relationship between husband and wife. What follows are my ideas.

I'm still fairly new at this, having only started dressing properly a few months ago, and my first contact with another TV was when I met Marlene (publisher of 'Fanfare') last July. I live by myself in a beautiful flat overlooking the ocean. I'm going through a very painful divorce from my wife of sixteen years. I have every opportunity to dress and in fact, do so every night on return from work in the big city.

Once every two weeks, on a Friday night, I collect my two children, a boy almost twelve and a daughter just turned ten. They stay with me until I take them home on Sunday evening. I then rush home as fast as possible to let Joy out of the closet once more.

I can almost hear some TV wives saying, "Gosh! Can't he even go for three days without dressing?" My answer is "Yes, but the presence of my children, who I love dearly, brings out feelings which Joy finds easier to express than James."

So, why tell the children?

I chose to tell them because of the freedom it would give us all. My daughter, who is very bright, had started asking me "Why have you shaved your legs?" Then - "Why have you shaved your arms? - Your Chest?" I had parried these questions with answers such as, "Well, I am a special person, and I want to." This did not really satisfy her. My son was far less observant. He asked about my arms, etc, once, appeared satisfied with my answer and that was that.

Things became a bit more difficult one week-end when by mistake I left out some of Joy's clothes and some nail polish. When questioned by my daughter, I explained by saying that a friend 'Joy' had come to visit and had left them behind! This tickled both of them to think that Dad had a girlfriend, and I was suitably teased. I began to think of how I could tell the children about Joy.

If you don't tell the children, then there will be an area of tension between you as parents and children. This adds, in my eyes, an unnecessary burden to a TV marriage, which has its own strains. I believe that some unaccepting wives use the children as a trump card excuse to keep their husbands under 'control'. I believe that true acceptance leads to openness and that means sharing everything with the family.

The question then becomes how to tell the children. Your approach may greatly influence the way your femme self is accepted. Some suggest a slow approach by dressing partly,. say in heels only with slacks, and then slowly adding garments until fully dressed; others, all or nothing! My son told me about a school friend, who for a dare, put on his sister's dress and rode around the block on his bicycle. This gave me the germ of an idea, which grew slowly.

My daughter, who copies her mother and always wears jeans, was my target. so, I began to take an interest in how she appeared by starting to comment how nice girls and women appeared in dresses. One day, she said to me, "Daddy, why don't YOU wear a dress if you think they look pretty?" This comment helped my plan. I replied, looking thoughtful, "Maybe I will, one day....maybe I will."

I was now of the opinion, having had my experience of 'passing' outside, that the key to acceptance is not to present a half complete image, but to do it properly.

I started to prepare the children by commenting that, one day if they were good, I would wear a dress for a dare. (How clever of me to make it a game they could understand) and take

them to the local steakhouse. This part went very slowly, lasting over 4 to 5 visits with repeated hints. I did not want to push it as I felt that this was the time when they were working through their own minds, the idea of Daddy dressed! One night, my daughter said to me while at the steakhouse, "Daddy, did you really mean you would come here dressed as a woman, or were you only joking?"

This was it! I replied that I really meant it, if they thought that I could look the part, and if they wanted another dinner there, we had better start having some practice at calling me "Auntie Joy" or "Mummy".

The next morning, my daughter's curiosity got the better of her. She asked when I was going to get dressed. So, I said that I was going to change and they were not to disturb me until I was completely ready. I told them again that while I was wearing a dress, they must remember to call me Joy, not Daddy!

I have never heard two argumentative kids be so quiet during the hour it took me to get ready. Eventually, I announced that I was ready, and out I came, in all my glory. My son giggled, and then wanted to feel my boobs and look at my panties. I told them that it was very bad manners to lift a lady's skirt, but would allow it just this once. After a few moments, my daughter looked at me, and earned a place in my heart forever. She said, "Dad, you really do look like a lady."

We spent the rest of the day together, cooking supper, making a special treat for them, and then watched some television. While watching TV, my daughter came and sat on my lap, and snuggled up very close. It was a real treat for me to hug and lover her dressed like that. That night I went to bed very contented.

The next morning I asked the kids if they wanted Joy or Daddy - they both chose Joy! My daughter wanted me to make-up her face also, which I did with pleasure. When my son also wanted to get made-up, I thought - Oh dear, what have I done? Quickly realizing that this was just curiosity, I put a few dabs on his face. He made some comment about how it smelled, and after a few minutes, he washed it off. Had I stopped him, it may have grown into something big.

We had a small problem that day when my daughter did something naughty, and Joy had to get cross. We had sulks for a while, but she appeared to respond more to Joy than to her Dad, and eventually she was out of her mood. I later found her in the spare room going through my make-up, and trying to do herself up. Not a bad job for first time!

(I now look forward to something that I never dreamed possible - helping my daughter to become more feminine.)

That Sunday evening, as I prepared to take the children home, for the first time, my daughter did not want to go. She climbed onto my lap and cried. She didn't want to leave me. My dears were very close, and I held her tight to let her know that both Daddy and Joy loved her very dearly. My son was his usual self, and with a "Good-bye Dad," off he went. Was it worth it? Definitely YES!

I still wait to see their reaction next time they come to stay. Will they want to see Joy again? I'm sure that they do not begin to understand my motives - that is not important. They saw me as a woman, and they both agreed that they would go to a steakhouse with me without feeling embarrassed. I suppose that I turned the whole thing into a game. That they understood. I came to their level, and it appeared to have been successful.

- END -

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PSYCHOLOGY

(Edited from 'Our Special Joy', published by Chi Delta Mu, P.O. Box 327, Massapequa Park, NY 11762)

ROGER'S NOTEBOOK

by

Roger E. Peo, Ph.D.
Dir. Androgyny Unlimited

Article #1

Americans are perhaps the most goal-oriented people I know. We are always going somewhere. Thus, it is no surprise that transgender behaviors are viewed in a similar fashion. I have heard many cross-dressers, transsexuals and professionals discuss, often heatedly, whether or not transvestism and transsexualism are two different situations or simply different aspects of the same phenomenon.

Transgender behaviors are very complex. Researchers have investigated just about every aspect, yet no one has come up with any theory that explains all the different forms of transgender behaviors. There is no simple answer. All the researchers and theorists are probably right about the people they have investigated, but each study only looked at a specific kind of behavior or set of people.

At a conference I attended recently, one professional couple discussed their results on arresting the progression of transvestism to transsexualism. They reported that about 20% of the clients who came to them for reassignment surgery described a progression in their cross-dressing that led to their desire for reassignment surgery. These researchers found that such a progression was often driven by psychological and relationship problems in the person's life.

I have talked with many cross-dressers and I recall many saying, "When I am cross-dressed, I feel much more relaxed." Assuming this is true, then it can follow that the cross-dressed state of existence appears to provide escape from the person's 'male' problems. This escape may seem so desirable that the person wants to make it permanent.

It also seems possible that persons who are classified as transsexuals may be unaware of these feelings for a variety of reasons. They may cross-dress and exhibit all the characteristics of a cross-dresser. Later, as they find the time to explore, they uncover other feelings and inquire about reassignment surgery.

For any individual, the specific cause of their cross-dressing is probably an intertwining of biology and psychology. I do not believe that all (or even very many) cross-dressers will ultimately progress to reassignment surgery. Some cross-dressers become very good at 'passing' as women. This does not predict that they will progress to reassignment surgery.

Because the feelings experienced during cross-dressing are often very pleasurable, there can be the fantasy of staying in that state forever. Developing the ability to 'pass' allows a longer time and a wider variety of environments for the cross-dressing. However, I have heard many cross-dressers say that they were ready to change back to their male attire after an extended cross-dressed period.

A helping professional can provide the objectivity necessary to sort out these feelings. For the cross-dresser who wants to use reassignment surgery as an escape, the counselor should uncover this and help the client to see it. While this is not an easy task, any less can have disastrous long-term effects.

For the 'true' transsexual, the counselor has the responsibility to assist in the reassignment. In either case, the process is neither simple nor short. Whether or not sex reassignment surgery is ever performed, the counselor has the task of helping the client come to terms with his gender feelings and help him live his life with less discomfort.

* * * * * *

Article #2

Are you a boy or a girl? That's usually the first thing someone wants to know about you. The world we live in is divided into two sexes. Men and women do different things. There are punishments for those who dare to cross the line that divides the two.

Many people tend to deny some parts of their being in order to survive with a minimum of harassment from other people. The cross-dresser who has taken some time to explore his feelings (a feminine trait, by the way) often wants to know more about these denied parts of his personality.

"Exploring femininity": It's a phrase often heard in gatherings of cross-dressers and seen in articles written for the cross-dresser. Sometimes, however, it seems to me that all some cross-dressers are interested in exploring are the more enjoyable aspects of the feminine world: nice clothes, make-up, going to parties, and so on. But this is only a partial view of women and the world they live in every day.

In the last issue of the 'Femme Mirror', Carol Beecroft wrote an article entitled "Why Attend a Chapter Meeting When I Can Go Out In Public Anytime?" Here, Carol addresses the issue of developing the feminine side of your personality. She observes that cross-dressers often keep their male personality when dressed as women ... which does little for the exploration of femininity.

Femininity has little to do with the clothing women wear. What these clothes do is to identify the wearers as women (often with the unspoken message that they are first and foremost sex-objects). If you take the time to watch women as they interact with other people, you will see some behaviors that few men do on a routine basis.

For example, there is concern for other people's situations, sometimes to the point of denying themselves. Many women put other people's needs ahead of their own. Mothers go without so that their children can have what they need. Wives give in to their husbands' desires to preserve harmony in the marriage. The examples are endless.

What does this have to do with you, the cross-dresser? Probably very little if the only reason you cross-dress is for personal reasons. If you wish to move beyond the immediate personal gratification and truly explore the femininity within you, then it is necessary for you to be aware of your interactions with other people.

When you are at a chapter meeting, do you brag about how often you were able to go out and pass or do you take the time to seek out that panic-stricken person who is at his first meeting and doesn't know what to do? If you have an understanding partner, are you sensitive to her feelings about your cross-dressing? If you do not have an understanding partner, do you take the time to understand why she does not understand and empathize with her situation? Do you support her needs and feelings in either case?

Cross-dressing is often an enjoyable experience... with new feelings and different roles to play. But if you had to wear women's clothing all the time,
I suspect that you would find the demands placed on women are much less fun than you think they are.

On a wider scale, if you work at exploring and developing the feminine aspects of your personality, it can provide you with new information that will carry over into the male aspects of your life. Being "in tune" with those around you can make your everyday life less of a contest and more of a team effort.

- END -

(**** If you have subjects you would like Dr. Peo to write about or questions you need to have answered privately, you may write to P.O. Box 4877, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602, or call (914) 462-7455. All communications are kept strictly confidential.)

RELIGION

(Edited from then Northwest Gender Alliance Newsletter, published by the NWGA, P.O. Box 4928, Portland, OR 97208-4928 503-641-6736)

DON'T GIVE ME THAT OLD TIME RELIGION

by Nancy A.

I suppose all of us have had some thoughts of religion and cross-dressing at times.

It may have been those times of "silent meditation" in church where you prayed to stop "doing it" and you promised you'd never do it again, but look at that lady in the beautiful dress in the pew in front, and wouldn't that look good on me....

Discussions in the Letters to the Editor in the newspapers and perhaps in arguments with other people, Christians are going to sometimes come up with Deuteronomy 22:5 that (in the Revised Standard Version) says "..nor shall a man put on a woman's garment; for who ever does these things is an abomination to
the Lord your God."

It probably does little good to point out that the case addressed FIRST in that passage is "A woman shall not wear anything that pertains to a man,..." In other words, the Bible seems to feel that a woman wearing pants and mannish clothes is worse than a man wearing a dress. Many women have a double standard that will tell you that "that's the current style," and things like that. However, the people who bring up quotations from the Bible usually think that what the Bible says is true and should be for all times. I guess "current fashion" doesn't count.

In the words of a woman I admire greatly, who is one of the foremost Biblical scholars in the west, you have to remember that, "Most people get their theology from Christmas cards." Most people have read very little of the Bible. Except for a few memory verses from Sunday school or excerpted quotations by some preachers, most Christians "believe in the Bible" but don't know what it says.

Deuteronomy alone is a shock to most Christians. You might just look at a few of the things in the class of "abomination." For example, Deuteronomy 24:1 states that a woman who marries, is divorced, marries again, and then is widowed or divorced and then tries to marry the first man again,"... that is an abomination before the Lord."

Also, in Deut. 17:1, we see that sacrificing a lamb or ox that has a blemish on it also counts as an abomination.

Deuteronomy is that section where the Ten Commandments come in (starting in Deut. 5:7). Most times they are fairly clear cut, but sometimes word changes cause difficulty. For example, in the time of King James, the word "slay" had the meaning that we give to "kill, as to kill in battle", or "kill an ox". The word "kill" at that time was what we would now term "murder". Therefore, when it says "thou shalt not kill", good translation would change that to "You shall not murder".

You have to watch out for translation errors in other places. Genesis seems to be really down on women, our favorite sex, creating Eve second, blaming them for original sin and all that. On the other hand, the word "Adam" is the Hebrew word for "mankind". The first 16 times it is used in Genesis, it is used as the word "mankind" in the original. It is only on the 17th reference that one man is given the name "Adam". This is clear in the Hebrew because of the form of the word. It's the same as talking about "Man is good". You'd never know it from most translations, however.

But let's assume that the translations are accurate and say just what the people who wrote down the Bible's first five books after 900 years of an oral tradition really meant. If you believe that the rules in the Bible apply to today and should be followed, then you must also:

- Kill adulterers (both parties) (Deut. 22:22).

- Kill engaged virgins who have sex with anyone (that is, unless it was in open country where she could not complain to anyone, then only the man is killed) (Deut. 22:23).

- Stone to death any bride who turns out not to be a virgin on her wedding night. (If a man accuses her of not being a virgin and her family can prove she is, he will be fined 100 shekels of silver and whipped.) (Deut. 22:13)

- If a man has a brother who dies without male heirs, the brother must impregnate the widow until male heirs are produced. If he refuses to do so, he should be publicly humiliated in the town square. (Deut. 25:1)

- Burn the churches of any people who do not have the same religious beliefs as you. (Deut. 7:5)

- Kill any relative who tries to get you to consider any other religious ideas. (Deut. 21:18)

- Stone to death any son who is rebellious to his father or mother. (Deut. 21:18)

- Give the same punishment to any man who has an accident that damages his genitals.

Then there are the minor things that strike us as rather silly. For example, if a man has a nocturnal emission, he must be kept outside the city for a day (Deut. 23:10). Or, Deut. 22:9 says you can't plant more than one variety of grape. Deut. 23:10 forbids wearing wool and linen at the same time (they didn't know about cotton, nylon, silk, rayon, or the others, or they would probably be included).

Some things are allowed, such as raping a virgin if you pay the father 50 shekels of silver (Deut. 22:28). You also should have a one year's honeymoon with no necessity to work or be drafted (Deut. 24:5).

Having two wives at a time seems to be fine, as long as you don't play favorites with the kids (Deut. 21:15).

Of course, having two wives is not legal in this country at this time. Should the laws of the state and nation take precedence over the rules of the Bible? If the person arguing with you agrees with this, point out that the state of Oregon sees nothing wrong with cross-dressing. In a recent court ruling, no city or county ordinance can have a harsher penalty than that assessed by the state. Therefore, cross-dressing cannot be illegal any place in Oregon.

Being a Christian may require that you do not follow all the parts of the Bible all the time. Even the "Fundamentalists" I know who believe that the translation job done in the 1600's is perfect, really have not read all of Deuteronomy or, indeed, very many parts of the Bible. Perhaps rules that speak of "tribe" and "camp", instead of "nation" and "city", do not work the same today.

Perhaps being a Christian involves the belief in Christ (the most androgynous, non-condemning figure in the whole Bible and in story and church paintings) and not the rules of small desert tribes.

The Christ of the Bible believed in loving everybody!

- END -

(**** The editor of the NWGA Newsletter invites reader comments to this article. Please address your comments to: Roni, P.O. Box 4928, Portland, OR 97208.)

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(Edited from 'Our Sorority', published by Phi Chapter, c/o W. Beeman, Box 4128, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034)

RED LIGHT - GREEN LIGHT

By
Betty Ann Lind

Little Miss High Heels has just completed an exciting evening of playing "Dress Up" in her own home and it is the wee hours of the morning. Everything has been so very exciting and her magic mirror has told her that she looks just perfect in Spanish Heels, smoke taut nylons, black leather skirt, and pink Angora sweater. Tossing her Shirley Temple curls, she decides that the "magic moment" has arrived.

It is two A.M. and everyone is asleep, so all she has to do is play "Let's pretend" and mince down to the corner mail box to mail a letter. How wonderfully inventive! Every woman mails a letter every so often.

So she throws on her lovely little red wool car coat, grabs a purse to match her shoes, checks in the magic mirror, and with letter in hand she is suddenly all-a-thrill in the morning chill... click-clicking on her way to the mail box on the hill!

At the mail box she daintily drops in her letter with a thrill of joy, for whoever could think that such a pretty little miss was a boy? The she hears the crunch of wheels, sees the flashing lights, and hears a deep masculine voice ask with concerned authority: "Are you alright, MISS?"

Little Miss High Heels has just traveled into the RED LIGHT ZONE! No ordinary woman would be out in the wee hours alone wandering down a dark street unless she was in trouble. If she had not been in trouble, she was now!

When you play at dress-up, don't go where a woman would not go! That is a RED LIGHT!

Miss Arian Hetero has had a wonderful time doing her thing at the Money Mall and as a special treat she has decided to visit that lovely corner, "Cheers," where she had lunch today. It was so lonely and out of the way... just the perfect way to end a wonderful day.

So, purse in hand, she properly exits her car and soon is in the corner bar/restaurant, seated in the same little booth she was in earlier in the day. The waitress serves her politely, but has a strange look of concern on her face. As soon as the waitress leaves Miss Arian Hetero - who swears that if she is ever approached by a man she will deck him - hears a deep masculine voice inquire: "Do you live nearby, baby doll?" Oh, pitty pat, where is she at? She has just entered the YELLOW LIGHT ZONE!

If she had been raised properly as a little girl, she would have known that some places which are safe for a woman in the afternoon become dangerous at night. Miss Arian Hetero had entered a "pick-up" bar and an ordinary man had found her pretty enough to try and pick her up. Who can blame him? She had entered a yellow light area, which was turning red, and she had ended up in a situation which she had avoided with dread.

Women are aware that certain places are safe at certain times and can become quite unsafe at others. If you are going out as a woman, be aware of yellow light areas!

So listen to your mother, my child; do not go where ordinary women do not go. Be aware that places, and clothes, change as the day passes by. If you are not at all sure, first go out as boyself to see how women dress and congregate secure in areas bathed with a GREEN LIGHT so pure.

No matter how modern the Miss, she knows there are areas RED, YELLOW, and GREEN and she constantly uses her good judgment to avoid areas in either yellow or red. If you are going out as a woman, my child, keep these colors in your pretty little head!

- END -

DRESSING FOR SENSUAL APPEAL

by Kay Gould (CA-0323)

We want to sizzle when we dress if for no other reason than to flaunt our femininity to the world. But more than that, we usually want all the attention that can come from the allure we want to show. Clothes are therefore the way we do it and the medium of our expression.

For most of us the seductiveness and pure sexiness of our under garments gives us a great deal of the ecstasy we find in dressing. However, you can't go out dressed in only sexy under-things. We need to choose those things that will separate us from the average yet not look out of place (too much). Personally I'm into passing, and, in an evening crowd at a good restaurant with a date, or cruising in a bar, or at a hot party, I want something that screams pulchritude and sex yet with money and class. I want the doorman or Maitre D to say "Wow," not "Oh Gawwd!" It's been said that men always fall for flashy women because they make the biggest show. That may be true for some but for me I would prefer to say that those who make the best show get the attention. What you are doing when you dress for sensual appeal is saying to the group, "LET'S PLAY." You are trying to use clothes to accentuate or bring forth your best points and to minimize your weaker points. You can create an aura of sensuality and sex appeal by choice of color combinations, of fit, texture and most importantly scent. I mean who can deny the absolute sensuality of a sleek but well tailored woman. Fashion magazines are now featuring leather ensembles this year. Leather of course has its own unique scent when worn for a while.

Here are some specifics which have been successful for me:

A dress that plunges in front and dips in back is incredibly alluring. For many this will have the effect of breaking up a large frame but only if the bared area is devoid of body hair. If you have a narrower body and are in the size 12 or less range, then you can wear something that goes clear up to your neck and conceals every inch of you. In either case dress it up with smokey black stockings and spikey pumps. I like the use of flashy clipon bows with rhinestones for my pumps. Super flashy sandals with sparkle also have the same effect.

Kay Gould

A very sexy leg revealing wraparound skirt with a multi colored sash or wide fabric tie belt accentuates such an outfit. Add to it very spiky bare sandals and you have a knockout punch. Add to it large brightly colored bead ropes and a clunky bracelet for a final capper that has real allure and screams sex.

For those of you who have the figure, try a jumpsuit with very narrow legs and a zipper that goes from top to bottom - yes, from neck to you most private area. Add to that a belt or sash at the waist in bright colors. For those of us who love boots, you can tuck the jumpsuit legs into the new soft suede boots with spike heels or of course a snug pump or splashy sandals have a dynamite effect.

One of my favorite shopping outfits and, for that matter, afternoon play, is tight fitting designer jeans, with zippered ankles, and very high open toe french or stiletto heels. I add to that a very loose, blousey top, full sleeves and vee bosom of course. Add to it a chain belt or studded leather one and in some cases even a knotted cord belt. Remember, if I'm shopping this way I'm looking for fun and sending a message that 'PLAY IS ON MY MIND.'

One of my favorites from Hanover is a very straight black wool skirt with 4" slits on each side along with smokey black hose. For contrast try light grey smokey hose and matching grey pumps and purse. To compliment the outfit add a grey Quiana blouse and a rhinestone pin on one shoulder.

There are so many new flouncy sheer multi-colored skirts available to start with. Make sure you compliment it with a very loose sheer blouse full sleeved and very strappy summer sandals. Of course sparkling toe nail color is critical in all cases. As far as color combinations anything goes. Green with red or green with orange, reds with violet, black and white, blue and yellow, magenta with anything, hot reds, shimmering silver or gold, all scream sex appeal. Don't forget earrings to complement it all.

Jewelry may be loud and bold or subtle and rich; twisted or braided chokers; dramatic modern and artsy pieces do well. Each piece of jewelry, even a single earring draws attention to some part of your body such as a long rope of faux pearls knotted just below the bustline is a sure attention getter. For those of you who like it, a silver rope knotted around the waist draws the attention from the person with suppressed submissive tendencies. Of course it goes without saying that one of your first investments has to be a gold ankle bracelet preferably with a sparkling diamond in it.

Handbags and purses can do wonders. Ones that hang and dangle, that accentuate your strut by swinging send out a strong 'let's play' message. Small soft clutchables with beading or glitter for evening do the same. Your bag can frequently say you are out for quick fun and love glamour.

Belts can do so much and say even more. First they draw attention to the curvaceous nipped in waist and show the effects of figure training. They can even send the message that you are wearing a well fitted corset. They can also reinforce that tight waisted look. Large gold, silver or rhinestone buckles say 'let's have fun.' I have one black belt made of leather that uses a pair of rhinestone studded handcuffs to hold it together.

Shoes can make or break the image you are trying to project. They must first and foremost be high, spiky with either French or Continental heels. The Wild Pair shoe chain has many many styles that do this. They have stores in most big and medium sized cities. Of course the major TV boutiques such as Lee Brewster, Fem Fashions, Versatile Fashions, and Michael Salem's have these available as well.

Choose each item of clothes carefully. If your figure is too big

for the bold, wild styles go for the slinky seductive 'come touch me' fabrics and styles. You want to choose clothing that says 'I'm interested', to arouse, to entice.

Lastly, except in certain costume party situations, always remain a 'high quality find' and try through your clothes to push something to the edge, but make the other party be the one who has to reach out to find out. That way you'll be in control - always, and that's where we modern new girls must be.

- END -

(Edited from 'Our Special Joy', published by Chi Delta Mu, P.O. Box 327, Massapequa Park, NY 11762)

A TV SHOPPING GUIDE

by Lynda F. (NJ-0321)

Rather than listing where to shop, this article tells how to go about it.

Shopping en femme is a desire of most TVs. Being able to shop directly for clothes (to assure getting the right size) and the excitement of appearing dressed in public make it a most attractive and pleasurable experience. As a guide for "first-timers", we'd like to provide some helpful hints and pointers that can make such an adventure move along smoothly.

* First and foremost familiarize yourself with your surroundings. You should be there at least once as your male self. Take note of entrances, exits, parking lot and store layouts. Be especially aware of areas you will want to avoid such as arcades and eating pavilions.

* Second, make sure you're relaxed. If you can't get relaxed naturally, try a glass of warm milk or several stomach antacid tablets or a long, secluded walk. Do not, however, use drugs or alcohol to calm yourself; you should at all times be completely alert and able to handle any situation that may arise. If you feel you need either drugs or alcohol to gain the confidence to shop while dressed, you are not ready for it... and should not consider an attempt.

* Third, dress and make-up impeccably. This is strongly emphasized, since a neat appearance and good hygiene go a long way in all walks of life. It's also very important to dress for the occasion... both for the stores you plan to visit (i.e., Saks vs. Woolworth) and for the time of day (mid-morning or "after work", e.g.). Always remember that this is a shopping trip and not a cocktail party! It's also a good idea to dress a "half-notch" down so as to avoid attracting undue attention.

* Fourth, be aware of - and practice - feminine behavior. This relates to posture, walking, sitting, and general mannerisms. For example:

- Women walk more slowly than men.
- Two women always walk side-by-side, shoulder-to-shoulder, with neither one leading or lagging.
- Women never look back or over their shoulder when accosted by someone's comment.
- Women walk straight down the center of the aisle and do not make way for oncoming people, especially men.

There are, of course, many others, but the key is observation and awareness, practice, and mental concentration.

There are many ways to minimize the risk of being "read", to increase your comfort level, and to maximize your enjoyment. Notice that we said 'minimize' being read, for we believe one must expect to be read by some of the people some of the time. And, as

such, must be mentally prepared for the situation.

Two of us developed a system for "doing a mall" that has worked quite well. It is based on our expecting to be read by sales clerks, and using that fact to our advantage.

You must realize that it is a salesperson's job to closely examine the customers, both from the standpoint of helping them find something and to prevent shoplifting. Remember that if you buy an article, you will be face-to-face with one or more salespeople and, unless you look absolutely fantastic, one of them will read you.

Based on this insight, here is a plan we find works well:

1. Enter the mall via a store entrance rather than the main entrance, where people may be milling about waiting for busses... with nothing else to do except closely check-out the people coming and going.

2. Go directly to the women's department.

3. Make sure you're in the correct size area; a 5'10" girl does not belong in "Petites."

4. Browse through the racks. Don't worry about the lady on the other side of your rack, because she's so busy looking at the clothes she won't even notice you. (But do be concerned about her husband, who is probably checking out all the gals.)

5. Notice the sales people.

6. If the sales people notice you, don't run and hide behind the rack. Instead, smile, nod, and make eye contact, make friends, then slowly move on.

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7. After this phase, leave the store without buying anything (even if you have spied just what you want).

8. Walk the mall and/or visit another store (following the same procedure as above). Don't worry about walking the mall; this is probably the one area where people notice other people less, due to window shopping, conversations, or just plain rapid movement.

9. Now return to your first store, noting any change in the overall situation. You have an advantage:

a) You've been there before.

b) The salespeople recognize you and are over any initial shock.

c) You, thus, are more comfortable.

d) The sales clerks' attitudes will indicate if you are welcome. If so, stay and shop. If not, leave!

In general, we have found sales people to be sympathetic, welcoming, and helpful. They have seen two TVs with neat appearance and good personal hygiene that smiled at them and seemed to be nice people.

Via our "water-testing" first appearance, we have been able to recognize the sales clerks' initial acceptance... which thus helped us gain confidence and comfort.

In summary, we say, "Act confident!" (Not so much that you will pass with everyone, but that will feel O.K.) No one is going to jump down your throat. In fact, you'll find that most (almost all) women will be helpful, interested, willing to talk, and - above all - friendly. It's absolutely great!

So we repeat: Try to look as good as you possibly can. Show that you have taken time and energy to look your best. Women can relate to that.

Try to deal with women as much as possible, as they seem to be more sensitive and open to cross-dressers. Don't be afraid to approach a male salesperson in a store that caters to big/tall women or which carries large-size shoes: These men have probably seen more TVs than you have ever met!

In dealing with a small store, call first and explain your situation. They will (usually) let you know you are welcome... and will anxiously expect your arrival. (This is a good technique, as your comfort in going to such a store will immediately be maximized.)

Your attitude and your acceptance are important. If someone "realizes"... so what? Act natural, be comfortable, enjoy your femininity.

Be glad that you are lucky enough to be a man and able to touch the female world so closely, so thoroughly. You are a more complete human being. Realize and experience the best of both the male and female worlds.

Have not only self-acceptance but total joy in being a cross-dresser. Once you really get in touch with it, it truly is a "special joy."

- END -

The Transvestian®

Published monthly by

Tania Volen, Inc.

200 Main Street
Tennent, N.J. 07763-0200

201-920-3400

Annual Subscription:
$18.00 USA
$24.00 Canada
$42.00 Overseas

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TRANSSEXUAL COUPLES

by

Rupert Raj, Dir. MMRF

This article contains some observations on a scarcely-researched but never-the-less sociologically relevant subject: transsexual couples.

Many (or most) female-to-male transsexuals (F-M TSs) are apparently exclusively heterosexual: they prefer women. However, I know of at least five F-M TSs who identify themselves exclusively (or primarily) as gay men: they prefer to love men -- as men. I also know of at least four bisexual F-M TSs: they are attracted to men and women both. The fact that many M-F TSs post-operatively practice bisexuality or lesbianism is relatively well-known by many gender clinics. However, the fact that a (growing?) number of F-M TSs are, post-operatively, likewise bisexual or gay is generally not as well known (as evidenced by a clinician's statement on a recent Canadian television program that F-M TSs are only sexually attracted to women).

Many (or most) F-M TSs who are in a sexual relationship are reportedly involved with genetic female, in a man-woman or husband-wife union. Yet again, there are some F-M TSs (a growing number?) who have girlfriends and wives who are M-F TSs. (I know of at least eight such couples -- one of which, both post-operative, is legally married.)

One such F-M TS, who has had a M-F TS ladyfriend for the past six years told me he tried a few genetic women but after a very bad experience with one, and after trying to find an understanding female friend for years, he found he was never going to hit it off with them. He says he was always attracted to girls from the beginning and was never attracted to males and never will be. So, he considers himself to be a 'straight' man. He says, "I would always have this feeling genetic females would never understand. Also, they are very difficult to find, especially these days when even genetic males have a hard time."

He adds he had been deeply hurt by a genetic female friend, and so, because he was bitter and lonely at the time, he, "turned to someone in reverse to myself - which, frankly, worked out for me." He had some initial reservations about the M-F TS, but found out some like men, others like women. And, he now feels it's easier to ask and go out with a M-F TS than a genetic female. He adds that some M-F TSs feel as he does, "They like to go out with guys like us because it's easier for them too, as many are afraid to go out with genetic males for the same reason I was afraid to go out with genetic females. That is that genetic men and women won't think transsexual lovers are good enough for them physically."

He observes, "I have come to like the M-F TS better than the genetic female because they understand men a great deal better and we understand them, as we are all in the same boat. As well, M-F TSs have more mystique and many are also more feminine than the genetic female. Some are so much better looking you would never know (their transsexual status). Only a few things give them away, such as the adam's apple, a deep voice, or little things like that."

He adds he thinks F-M TSs make better lovers and are more understanding, in some ways, than genetic males. He concludes, "Maybe it's not too much of a handicap, in some ways, being a transsexual -- all of us -- because we can understand and appreciate M-F TSs and their problems and they can understand and appreciate us and ours -- being on both sides of the fence, all of us, F-Ms and M-Fs."

This preference for 'reverse transsexuals' as romantic and sexual lovers is shared by a (growing?) number of M-F TSs, as well. I know at least one M-F TS who specifically seeks a F-M TS partner and has even advertised for such a prospect in several transsexual newsletters. (A common bond may be an advantage but I think two people in a relationship require shared interests and goals, similar philosophies and values in life much more than just past experiences in common. Therefore, I,

personally, would not categorically recommend transsexuals actively seek out one another for the express purpose of forming a sexual relationship. I have witnessed the break-up of some of these transsexual couples - precisely because the only real thing these partners had to bond them was their transsexuality. It's not enough!)

Other than the 'sex-change couples' discussed above, the National Enquirer (and similar gossip rags) have sensationalized two cases of 'odd couples' (as the papers call them) in which both the father and the mother, in each case, wished to change sex. The first report (July 10, 1979, National Enquirer) was on Harry (now Sheila Marie) and Jean Reynolds, at that time 34 and 25 respectively. They lived in Benson Arizona, jobless, and the parents of two daughters, then two and seven respectively. Harry (Sheila Marie) was 6'8" and Jean was 5'4". The second report (June 2, 1980, Toronto Star) was on Cathy (nee Eugene Browne) and Christopher (nee Anne) Johnson, at that time 32 and 30 respectively. They lived in Birmingham, England, and were the parents of a daughter, then three. Cathy was 5'5" and Chris was 5'9". Their sex-reassignment operations were paid for under the British national health service at a cost of $55,000.

One final 'bizarre' (as National Enquirer terms it) story of a 'gay' couple was reported in the paper's June 29, 1982 issue. It involved a F-M TS, Jason Cope, then 26, who fell in love with another man, Myles Swain, then 24, while changing his (Jason's) sex. But, Jason (nee Joyce) and Myles had a daughter together -- four years after Jason's mastectomy and phalloplasty, but before his hysterectomy! (In love and sex, anything's possible!).

I do not mean to imply that two transsexuals cannot engage in a meaningful, fulfilling, loving relationship. In fact, I have been involved in several relationships with M-F TSs in the past, and, for a five-year period, have been 'going out with' the same M-F TS ladyfriend in a viable, valid, happy union. I only wish to stress that just both partners being transsexual is not enough of a common bond on which to build a strong, lasting, workable relationship. Love and respect, faith and trust, loyalty and support, caring and sharing are also essential, as are a good rapport, a mutual sense of humor, similar interests and shared activities. A couple that works and plays together stays together. A transsexual is a person firstly, a transsexual secondly. Thus, a relationship is made up of two people relating to each other, not two transsexuals. Each partner's own persona (personhood) should just about preclude the transsexuality of both. In this way, for example, I fell in love, during my past involvements with M-F TSs, not with transsexuals, but with women.

- END -

A FINER SPECIMEN OF WOMANHOOD

A Transsexual Speaks Out
by Sharon Davis
With photographs

To many people, the terms *homosexual, transvestite,* and *transsexual* are confusing and perhaps even interchangeable. Whatever the words mean, many people in our society view individuals who claim to be any of the three as unnatural deviates.

As a result of these narrow-minded conceptions, author Sharon Davis had to go through indescribable pain and mental anguish every day of her life. Before her sex-change operation, she had been a female trapped inside a male's body. This had been hard enough to deal with, but the prejudiced and uninformed comments of those who didn't understand her made life even more difficult—so difficult, in fact, that in the end she was faced with only two options: a sex-change operation or suicide.

Now, thanks to her friends (who were always there regardless of her life-style), understanding doctors and nurses, and her own faith in God and herself, Sharon Davis is a happy, contented woman—something she has always wanted to be.

If you're concerned—and scared—about your own sexual identity or if you know someone who is, *A Finer Specimen of Womanhood: A Transsexual Speaks Out* is excellent and highly recommended reading.

Today she is a successful model and lectures professionally on the transsexual experience, helping other transsexuals through her own experiences and trying to bring a better understanding of gender-dissatisfaction problems to everyone.

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A TV DREAM COME TRUE

by

Joan H.

When the waitress said, "Miss, would you care for a cocktail before dinner?", and the desk clerk said, "Joan, your cab is here," it took all my mental powers to keep from pinching myself black and blue to see if I were dreaming or not.

This real life TV Dream Come True took place during my recent visit to London, England. It was here that, for the first time in my life, I ventured beyond the safe confines of my home and the Tiffany Club, dressed as a woman.

The focal point of this dream come true was the Philbeach Hotel, located in the Earl's Court area of London. This hotel catered to the TV community, and it was from here that I journeyed by taxi cab, while dressed, to a Beaumont Society meeting, a TV/TS Group social, and the Porchester Drag Ball. The Philbeach was a distinctive English establishment, more akin to a Provincetown guest house than a Holiday Inn.

When I checked in to the Philbeach during the latter part of my first week in London, I did so as a man. When I left a week and a half later, I felt as if I were a woman. On my first evening there, I debated in my own mind, should I, or should I not, dress and go to dinner. With a lump in my throat, and a knot in my stomach as big as if tied with a hauser from a battleship, I dressed and went to the dining room. As soon as the waitress asked if I wanted a cocktail, the lump evaporated and the knot was untied. What a great feeling! And the rest is history.

The next evening, I went to a Beaumont Society meeting in Ealing. The hotel arranged for a taxicab, and away I went, dressed in my feminine finery. It was a wonderful evening, and at the appointed time, the taxi appeared, and back to the hotel I went.

But Saturday night was the night to remember - the Porchester Drag Ball. There were over 500 TVs, crossdressers, and others, all dressed as they dreamt they should be dressed, dancing and prancing about the huge ballroom. The high point of the evening was the Miss Porchester Beauty and Costume contest. It was spectacular.

By Sunday I was quite an accomplished traveler, so off I went to the TV/
TS Group meeting in Islington. I had been to their meeting the previous Sunday (my first day in London), but this time, I was properly dressed. As on the previous visit, I felt most welcome and at ease. Their warmth and sincerity can only be appreciated by a sister TV.

This TV dream come true took on new and greater proportions when I met Yvonne Sinclair, coordinator of the TV/TS Group, and B.S. Pearl, regional director for the Beaumont Society. Both these wonderful people opened their hearts and homes to me.

Yvonne brought me to her home by way of a boat ride down the Thames River from the House of Parliament, past the Tower of London, the bombed out docks, to the Cutty Sark. It was truly a journey through history. Yvonne's knowledge of, and her dedication to the TV Community are a credit to her and a benefit for all of us -- no matter where we live.

B.S. Pearl is another great asset to the TV Community. I was her guest at, as she calls it, 'Pearl's Parlor'. It is a safe haven in Woodford, a short distance from London. Again, I felt a genuine sense of friendship with her, her wife, and several other TVs who shared her hospitality, including Ellen S. of Portland, Oregon. It certainly is a small world.

My dream visit to London was bout the most intensely enjoyable time of my life. After a half-century in the closet, I finally emerged.

This dream is shared with you because it may inspire you to fulfill your dream.

- END -

(Edited from 'Metamorphosis Magazine', published by the Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation Inc., P.O. Box 5963, Station 'A', Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1P4 416-532-5769)

BOOK REVIEW: INFORMATION FOR THE FEMALE-TO-MALE CROSSDRESSER AND TRANSSEXUAL, by Louis G. Sullivan, 48 pages, $6.00 Order: L. Sullivan, 1827 Haight Street #164, San Francisco, CA 94117 Reviewed by Kim Elizabeth Stuart

Transsexuals have been viewed by society, over the years, as some sort of freaks - or as people in limbo between freakishness and homosexuality. Until recently, almost nobody took them seriously. Virtually all of the attention was given to "men who felt they were women trapped in male bodies". When female-to-male transsexuals came out in the open, the world was forced to take a closer look at the phenomenon of transsexuality. Some medical and mental health professionals began to realize that, if the condition was not confined to generic males wishing to become females, it must be something more than a few "drag queens" seeking attention. In point of fact, female-to-male transsexuals who openly declared themselves as such, provided more credibility to the feelings male-to-female transsexuals expressed about themselves.

Although the number of female-to-male transsexuals who come forward each year is nearly equal to the number of male-to-female transsexuals declaring themselves, the literature and body of knowledge is heavily weighted toward the male-to-female phenomenon. L. Sullivan now presents us with a very important, informative, helpful, and unusual survey of female-to-male transsexuality. The book also contains much information which could be of help to loved ones and others trying to understand the condition.

Admittedly, the book is short, but it is comprehensive and covers much ground. Not only does Sullivan examine the biological and medical aspects of transsexualism in detail, but he also comments extensively on the psychological aspects and feelings female-to-male transsexuals experience. Further, he discusses the attitudes society has toward the phenomenon currently, and presents a dramatic photo-text overview of female-to-male transsexualism from a historical perspective.

One example of the distance in knowledge that lies between women who want to become men, and men who want to become women is reflected in the attitudes of most surgeons. Almost all surgeons who perform genital surgery routinely operate on male-to-female transsexuals who have lesbian orientations in new roles. Surgeons who operate on female-to-male patients, however, adamantly refuse to operate on patients who indicate they identify as gay males. One has to wonder how such arbitrary and illogical lines are drawn in the minds of these surgical practitioners.

'Information For The Female-To-Male' has numerous photographs and sketches of women who have lived as men earlier in this century, and centuries past, which are fascinating; particularly so when one reads the stories behind them. All of this and more. Not bad for a 48-page book.

Mr. Sullivan has provided a valuable educational took on the subject of female-to-male transsexuality. He is to be commended for presenting such a worthwhile and interesting look at this intriguing subject.

- END -

(**** Ms. Stuart is the author of 'The Uninvited Dilemma'.)

Cross-Port

2020 "B" Beechmont Ave. Box 150
Cincinnati, OH 45230

A support group for all Cross-Dressers.
Meetings - Third Thursday of the Month.
News-Letter - "InnerView" published monthly.
For more information write.

A Chapter of Gateway Gender Alliance

BULLETINS, NOTICES, NEWS

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(# 34, 36 & 38 SOLD OUT)
Issue 33 $3.00 per copy

(Issues 1-32 were in newsletter form and are not available)

STAMPS-STAMPS-STAMPS

As you know, the Tapestry is a non-profit publication that also serves as an information clearing house. Now we have added the IFGE, which adds greatly to the already overwhelming postal burden. The average mailing cost is approaching $300 per month. To keep up WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

Send your contribution to: Tapestry, Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX deductible

NYC-GA BACK IN BUSINESS

The NYC-GA at one time held its meetings at Fem-Fashions on West 57th Street. The accommodations were too small to accommodate meetings. Now NYC-GA has discovered a lovely, large and safe place, with nearby parking facilities, and has resumed a full program of events for the TV/TS Community.

The meeting place, a former dance studio, is spacious and side walls are lined with mirrors. It can be decorated for parties and even has a complete sound system. Dressing rooms are available, although you may, of course, arrive dressed if you prefer. If you plan to dress at the meeting location it would be advisable to bring your own make-up mirror.

The address is: 435 5th Ave, 3rd floor. Across from Lord & Taylor between 38th & 39th streets.

The meetings and get-togethers are open to all TVs and TSs, wives, lovers and friends, and are quite informal.

Anmnual membership for the NYC-GA is $25.00. Individual meetings are $12.00 for members and prospective members, and $7.50 for wives and significant others.

ORGANIZATIONS, COMING & GOING:

GOING:

GATEWAY GENDER ALLIANCE (CA)
Georgia Saunders has retired. its chapters now exist independently, but maintaining communications through the Windy City Gender Alliance.

SPECTRUM (AZ)
Mail returned, no address

JANUS INFORMATION FACILITY (CA)
Dr. Paul Walker retired. J2CP Information Services of CA. has taken over Janus' services.

ERICKSON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION (CA)
Mail returned, unknown. J2CP Information Services of CA. has taken over Erickson Foundation's services.

TS COUNSELING (CA)
Mail returned, unknown.

COMING:

Massachusetts (Transsexual Support)
F.A.C.T. of Southern New England, c/o Karen Aldrich, P.O. Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA 02747

Detroit, MI (Support/Education)
The National Gender Dysphoria Organization, c/o Justina Williams, P.O. Box 02732, Detroit, MI 48202

Chicago, IL (Publication)
The Crossdress's Bureau, c/o Gloria Wright, P.O. Box 172, Gurnee, IL 60031

St. Louis, MO (Social)
St. Louis Gateway Femmes, P.O. Box 1262, St. Louis, MO 63188

Pueblo, CO (Social)
G.I.C. of Southern Colorado, c/o P.O. Box 5309, Pueblo, CO 81002

Trinidad, CO (Gender Clinic)
Ingersoll Gender Center, Colorado Office, 406 First National Bank Bldg, Box 402, Trinidad, CO 81082

Phoenix, AZ (social)
A Rose, c/o Cindy Ann Mackenzie, P.O. Box 2943, Glendale, AZ 85301

San Juan Capistrano, CA (Information)
J2CP Information Services, P.O. Box 184, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693-0184

San Jose, CA (Social)
Rainbow Gender Association, P.O. Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170

San Francisco, CA (TG Support)
Gender Identity Anonymous (GIA), no address, but meets every Thursday at the Science of Mind Room at 3255 Balboa St., San Francisco

Portland, OR (TS Support)
P.R.I.D.E.-Oregon, 9130 SW Oleson Rd, #A-1, Portland, OR 97223

INFORMATION FOR
THE FEMALE-TO-MALE
Cross-dresser and Transsexual

A 48 page, richly illustrated handbook to address the needs of the female-to--male!
2nd edition, new for 1985

- Cross-dressing
- Passing As A Man
- Male Hormones
- Sex Reassignment
- Dozens of True Stories of Females Who Crossed over

"...if, by concealing our sex we find that we, too, can roam up and down the earth in safety, we shall keep our womanhood a profound secret." - The Revolution, by Elizabeth Cady Stanton 1869

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Please send _____copies of "INFORMATION FOR THE FEMALE-TO-MALE". I have enclosed $6.00 for each book ordered.
Note to Retailers: Inquire about pricing.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Send orders to: L. Sullivan, 1827 Haight St. #164, San Francisco, CA 94117

TRANSSEXUAL PREGNANCY POSSIBLE

LONDON - Scientists believe the technology exists to enable men to give birth, a British magazine reported. Such a birth might be dangerous, but one expert said "Undoubtedly, someone would do it."

New Society, a weekly magazine that deals with social issues, said candidates for male pregnancy might be homosexuals, transsexuals or men whose wives are infertile.

Male pregnancy would involve fertilizing a donated egg with sperm outside the body. The embryo then would be implanted into the bowel, or large intestine, where it could attach to the wall or to another major organ. The baby would be delivered by Caesarean section.

"Male pregnancy would pose enormous technical and ethical problems," Dr. Alan Trounson said in New Society. "But, it could be done by getting an embryo to implant in the bowel," said Dr. Trounson, director of the Institute of Early Human Development at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia.

"It can be done," declared Dr. John Parsons, senior lecturer in obstetrics at Kings College Hospital in London. "And, undoubtedly, someone will do it."

To become pregnant, men would have to undergo hormone treatment to simulate changes that occur naturally in women during pregnancy. The treatment would enable the embryo to attach to an organ such as a kidney or to the large intestine. The embryo creates its own placenta for nourishment.

- end

Post Office Box 184
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693-0184
(714) 496-J2CP (714) 496-5227

J2CP Information Services

J2CP Information Services provides information/referral services formerly provided by the Erickson Educational Foundation and JANUS Information Facility. **J2CP Information Services** is a separate entity and is not affiliated with either of its predecessors.

J2CP Information Services provides an information package consisting of pamphlets and literature concerning gender dysphoria syndrome, transsexualism and transvestism. This information package is available at a cost of $25.00 to cover research, printing, postage and secretarial services. Additionally, **J2CP Information Services** will attempt to provide referrals to reputable counselors, psychotherapists, or gender programs, and peer groups near your home.

Certified checks or Money Orders should be made payable to **J2CP Information Services.** Please specify whether you are male-to-female, female-to-male, or transvestite when writing. If transsexual, please provide your place of birth.

REFERENCES

INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION CENTERS

The organizations and individuals serving as information distribution centers are responsible for being familiar with the various services and organizations available in their given area. This information is to be distributed in accordance with the needs of the inquirer and not the private orientation of the organization or individual. (**** Please note that not all organizations listed in the Organizations and Services listings are willing or able to serve as general information distribution centers.)

NORTHEAST

TIFFANY CLUB Information distribution throughout the New England area. Tiffany Club, Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 617-358-5575

THE OUTREACH INSTITUTE Information distribution throughout New England. The Outreach Institute, Kenmore Sta. Box 368, Boston MA 02215 617-277-3454

THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB Information distribution for New England, specializing in transsexualism. The XX Club, Box 6070 Station 'A', Hartford CT 06106

THE BETTER LIVING INSTITUTE Information distribution for the New York City Area. B.L.I., c/o Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

L. FRANK Information distribution for Greater New York Metropolitan area. L. Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772

MID-ATLANTIC, SOUTH

PHI CHAPTER Information distribution for New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware). c/o W. Beeman, Box 4128, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

CHERYL COSTA Information distribution for Mid-Atlantic. Ms Cheryl A. Costa, P.O. Box 3234, Manassas, VA 22110

MID-WEST, SOUTH CENTRAL

PARADISE CLUB Information distribution for Upper Mid-West (Western New York to Illinois) Paradise Club, Box 29564, Parma, OH 44129

CROSSROADS CHAPTER Information distribution Michigan/Ohio area. Crossroads Chapter, Box 1298, Flint MI 48501

MS SHARON RENEE HART Information distribution for Chicago area. Sharon Renee Hart, Box 2312, Chicago IL 60690 312-472-4518

CHARLENE BYRD Information distribution for Texas. Charlene Byrd, P.O. Box 693, Mason, TX 76856 915-347-6234

SOUTHWEST, NORTHWEST

J2CP INFORMATION SERVICES Information distribution nation-wide. P.O. Box 184, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693-0184 714-496-5227

EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL (ETVC) Information distribution Northern California. ETVC, San Francisco, CA 94101

NORTHWEST CHAPTER Information distribution for Oregon/Washington area. Northwest Chapter, Box 4928, Portland OR 97208

CANADA

FEDERATION OF AMERICAN AND CANADIAN TRANSSEXUALS (FACT) Information distribution throughout Canada. FACT, Box 291 Sta. 'A', Hamilton Ontario Canada L8N-3C8 416-529-7884

TRANSVESTITES AU MONTREAL (TAM) Information Distribution for the Montreal Canada area. TAM, Box 1164 Station H, Montreal Que Can H3G 2N1 514-352-7481

FORIEGN

THE SEAHORSE CLUB OF AUSTRALIA Information distribution for Australia. The Seahorse Club of Australia, Box R341, Royal Exchange, Sydney 2000, Australia

TRANS-CCL Information distribution throughout Europe. Rev. Joseph Douce, Centre du christ Liberateur, Minoites Sexuelles, TRANS-CCL, 3 bis, rue Clairaut, 75017 Paris, France (1) 627-4936

ORGANIZATIONS & SERVICES

NEW ENGLAND

TIFFANY CLUB Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 617-358-2305

Nature: The Tiffany Club is a non-profit non-sexual social/educational organization for members of the Transvestite-Transsexual Community, and for persons affected by or affecting that Community. Tiffany welcomes all mature and responsible persons, and emphasizes friendship, support, good manners, common sense, and the security and peace-of-mind of all. Tiffany also works cooperatively with and in support of all non-profit organizations and services working on behalf of the TV/TS Community.

Services: Tiffany provides a comprehensive program of services and activities including, but not limited to, publishing the TV/TS Tapestry Journal, maintaining a safe-house, social activities, Wives Support Group, rap sessions, workshops, referrals, speakers bureau, conventions, etc. Tiffany is a very active and effective organization.

Security: If a person wishes to use Tiffany's facilities or attend a Tiffany function, that person must have met with and been cleared by a member of Tiffany's Screening Committee, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure that the attendee understands Tiffany's objectives and will comply with Tiffany's security requirements and code of conduct.

THE INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION for GENDER EDUCATION Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 617-358-2305

Nature: The IFGE was formed to sponsor international conventions and other primarily educational programs serving the entire TV/TS Community, and those persons affected by and serving that Community.

Services: The only function at the moment is to sponsor the annual IFGE convention.

THE HUMAN OUTREACH AND ACHIEVEMENT INSTITUTE Box 368 Kenmore Station, Boston MA 02215

Nature: The Outreach Institute is a non-profit corporation whose purposes and objectives are educational. Outreach works predominantly with Helping Professionals from the fields of Education, Guidance & Counseling, Therapy, Medicine, Law & Law Enforcement, Nursing and Human Services.

Services: Outreach's programs include OPERN (Outreach Professional Evaluation and Referral Network). seminars & workshops, a newsletter, Fantasia Fair (a living/learning growth experience for crossdressers, transsexuals and androgynes both male and female), and a book and publication service. (Outreach's catalog of books and reprints is available for $5.00. Outreach also has two information packets, one for . the F-M TS and one for the M-F TS, $25.00 each.)

Security: Outreach's programs are strictly non-sexual and sophisticated. All participants at any Outreach program are expected to act accordingly.

TRANSCEND COUNSELING SERVICE 500 Newbury St., Springfield, MA 413-737-5032 Stephen E. Parent, M.A., Director

Services: Help with record, name, vocation, employment changes and resumes. Testing and psychological work-ups.

F.A.C.T. OF SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND: Karen Aldrich, P.O. Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA 02747

Nature: Transsexual support.

Services: Group sessions, peer counseling, social events, newsletter, public education, personal needs, guest speakers, referrals.

TRANSSEXUAL SOCIAL ASSOCIATION: TSA, Box 5753 Weybosset Hill Sta., Providence, RI 02903 1-401-521-7597 , Sherrie McDermott Pres., Donna Page V.P.

Nature: TSA is a non-profit membership organization open to all transsexuals. There is a supportive environment giving all transsexuals a respectful and confidential get-together.

Services: TSA distributes a monthly newsletter 'the TSA Monthly', social activities, educational, material, and group support. TSA also offers peer counselling and works in conjunction with counsellors, psychologists, endocrinologists. TSA also offers other workshops needed in the transitional period of all transsexuals.

Security: A candidate for membership must meet with the president or vice president.

THE XX (TWENTY) CLUB Box 6070 Station 'A', Hartford CT 06106 (information: George W. Henry Foundation 203-522-2646)

Nature: The XX Club is a non-profit, non-sexual, social-educational-medical-outreach organization for persons interested in transsexualism. Friends and relatives are also welcomed, as are all those interested or involved with the crossdressing community.

Services: The XX Club has a monthly newsletter, and holds 2 meetings each month (the 2nd and 4th Saturday). The meetings include educational and medical programs, outreach work and information distribution. We also have social get-togethers, club parties, etc.

Security: We place no security precautions on people who wish to subscribe to our newsletter. However, if an individual wishes to attend our meetings, that person must meet and be cleared by a member of our screening committee, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure that the attendee understands the XX Club's objectives and goals and that the individual will comply with security require-

ments and code of conduct. We request that all who attend our functions or meetings respect our anonymity.

HARRIET LANE'S TV SET Harriet Lane, Box 4002 Yalesville Sta., Wallingford CT 06492 203-237-1968

Nature: Harriet Lane's is a social membership and guest club for all persons interested in crossdressing. TSs, relatives and friends welcome. The TV Set has 65+ active members with over 400 guests per year.

Services: Parties twice a month on 2nd & 4th Sat. - buffet - open bar or BYOB w/setups. Members may store clothes, and visit during the week. A newsletter every three months containing club dates, past parties & referrals of other clubs and coming attractions plus places to purchase femme wear. Overnight accommodations for qualified TVs, TSs and friends. Live-in cosmetologists.

Security: Security precautions are very mild to the point of a phone call to Harriet Lane for screening. No drugs or excessive alcohol will be tolerated - all participants at both parties will conduct themselves as ladies & gentlepersons. Treat all ladies & TV ladies as you would your mother or sister or daughter. With respect!!

CONNECTICUT GENDER ALLIANCE: Box 744, Branford, CT, 06405 Wendy J. Gwynne, Director

Nature: Non-profit non-sexual social organization for members and friends of the TV/TS Community.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC OF NEW ENGLAND 45 Church Street, Hartford, CT 06103

*** The following members of the Society for the Second Self (open to heterosexual crossdressers only) are interested in forming local chapters in the New England area:

NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

NEW YORK CITY GENDER ALLIANCE: c/o Fem Fashions, Penthouse B, 157 W 57th St, New York, NY 10019 (212) 582-6823 Muriel Olive, Director

Nature: Non-profit social organization for members and friends of the TV/TS Community.

AS A WOMAN: c/o B. Fortune, Box 369, Brooklyn, NY 11235 718-852-4290 Barbara Fortune, Founder

Nature: 'As A Woman' is a self-help group for males who have a strong need to function as women in attire and deportment. It is non-sexual, and open to interested family members, friends, and women. 'As A Woman' welcomes all mature and responsible persons, and emphasizes friendship, support, good manners, common sense, and the security and peace of mind for all.

Services: Monthly meetings, educational programs, opportunities to blend into society as a woman through controlled exposure to being out in public.

Security: Meeting attendees are requested to sign an 'oath of secrecy', protecting the individuals attending the meeting.

LONG ISLAND SOCIAL CLUB contact: Kay & Ursula Kwarta, 50 Sunny Rd, St. James, NY 11780 (516) 584-7736

Nature: Monthly dinner parties in a non-sexual atmosphere. A social gathering for crossdressers, transsexuals, their relatives & friends.

Services: Meetings on the 4th Saturday of each month. Bring your own bottle. A $10 charge includes a hot meal. Limited space available for dressing. Reservations necessary, so enough food for all is available.

Security: A phone call to Kay will usually suffice. No drugs or excessive alcohol will be tolerated. All guests are expected to conduct themselves as ladies & gentlemen.

SEX INFORMATION AND EDUCATION COUNCIL OF THE U.S. (SIECUS) SIECUS, 80 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10011

SIECUS is affiliated with the Department of Health Education of the School of Education, Health, Nursing, and Arts Professions of New York University. SIECUS deals with all sexually related issues, including gender expression.

THE BETTER LIVING INSTITUTE c/o Joyce Dewhurst, 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

Nature: The BLI is a non-profit non-sexual social organization for novice and accomplished crossdressers. The emphasis is on novice crossdressers. Most programs are geared for the novice. Accomplished crossdressers serve as our staff at meetings. The BLI is an educational arm of Joyce Dewhurst Parties, but both are separate and distinct.

Services: The BLI provides very informal get-togethers, beauty courses and a variety of social and educational events.

Security: No screening or security requirements. If, however, you do not meet our very liberal standards you will be so advised. This has happened only four times in five years.

JOYCE DEWHURST 37-50 76 St, Jackson Heights, NY 11372

Nature: Strictly social. Open to anyone interested in the crossdressing scene.

Services: Joyce Dewhurst sponsors frequent parties and debutante balls in NYC, and weekend outings to the Poconos in May and September.

Security: No screening or security requirements.

METAMORPHOSIS P.O. Box 6245, Broadway Station, Long Island City, NY, 11106 718-728-4615

Nature: Psychotherapy and counseling for persons with gender identity/expression related problems.

CONFIDE - PERSONAL COUNSELING SERVICES INC. Box 56, Tappan NY 10983, 914-359-8860 or 914-997-1013, offices in Tappan NY and Hartsdale NY

Nature: Confide runs a therapy group in Tappan, comprising transsexuals, transvestites and persons who are trying to find themselves on the gender spectrum.

Services: Confide is a private service offering counseling, therapy, hypnosis and hypnotherapy, with a large proportion of our practice dealing with gender problems. Private therapy sessions are held with Garrett Oppenheim, PhD FIC, the director, while Fae Robin, the co-director, offers coaching in grooming, manners, poise, makeup, shopping, etc. Dr. Oppenheim evaluates candidates for hormone therapy and sex reassignment surgery and makes referrals at the appropriate time.

Security: Membership in the group is contingent on a 1 1/2 hour screening session with Dr. Oppenheim.

TV ENTERTAINERS: c/o Renee Chevalier, P.O. Box 13844, Albany, NY 12212 518-436-1123

Nature: Non-sexual group offering friendship and support

ANDROGYNY UNLIMITED: P.O. Box 4887, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602 1-914-462-7455 Roger E. Peo, Ph.D. Dir.

Nature: Androgyny Unlimited is a private service that provides counseling, research, education and supporting services for transgendered persons.

Services: Individual counseling is provided by Roger E. Peo, Ph.D. a board-certified sexologist, primarily for the transvestite/cross-dresser and/or his partner. Counseling is also provided for persons who are trying to determine if they are cross-dressers or transsexuals. Referrals will be made where appropriate. Make-up and shopping services for clients are also available. Classes, seminars and workshops on transgender issues and human sexuality are provided both for college and graduate level students and for other groups. Ongoing research is conducted on a variety of topics in the transgender field.

Security: Appointments for counseling and allied services can be made by writing to Dr. Peo at the above address or by phone.

THE BUTTERFLY GROUP, Box 7161, Endicott, NY 13760 Shannon Micheals, President 607-623-3884

Nature: The Butterfly group is a non-profit, non-sexual social/educational organization for persons interested in cross-dressing, for transsexual persons, and for relatives and friends.

Services: We have social get-togethers, a Couples Club, and a small network of professional and para-professionals, social workers, medical practitioners, beauty consultants, and clothing retailers who are interested and very helpful to us.

Security: Butterfly has no major security requirements, but we do require persons desiring to attend our meetings to be screened by our membership chairperson or other appointed member, or have a letter of introduction from a qualified person to ensure understanding and compliance with our code of conduct.

'EON', (Expressing Our Nature): PO Box 6293, Camillus, NY 13031

Nature: EON is a non-profit, non-sexual, social and educational peer support group. It is comprised mainly of couples in a committed relationship, where one is a cross-dresser.

Services: We offer monthly social get-togethers in a pleasant atmosphere at one of our member's home. We also have non-dress discussion groups for our couples and friends. We have shops available that cater to our members. We also have a very active wives support group.

Security: EON requires a screening by a member of their screening committee prior to invitation as a guest. If you would like to be a guest please contact us through our P.O. Box. We welcome all mature and responsible people who enjoy the company of friends who share a common interests. We emphasize good manners, lady-like behavior, friendship, support, and security for all.

NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA

CHI DELTA MU CHAPTER (TRI ESS) Ms Lynda Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'.

Services: Get-togethers the 2nd Saturday of each month in either Northern New Jersey or Southern Westchester County NY. Very interested in attracting wives and girl friends. We have over 75 paid members, and have been in existence for over three years.

Security: Private interview with Chapter President or qualified member.

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY Ms Lynda Frank, Box 9192, Morristown, NJ 07960 (201) 663-0772

Nature: Open membership, non-sexual

Services: Get-togethers the last Saturday of each month at various locations in Northern NJ.

Security: Interview required.

NORTHERN N.J.: E. Malley, Northern NJ GGA, P.O. Box 9034, Morristown, NJ 07960

Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

PHI CHAPTER: c/o W. Beeman, Box 4128, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Nature: Open membership, non-sexual social organization.

Services: Get-togethers on the 4th Saturday of each month in Cherry Hill, NJ. We are very interested in having wives and girl friends attend our meetings.

Security: Phi places emphasis on security to all. Membership is offered to those by referral of a club officer, a member in good standing, or by contacting the chapter for same.

TRANSPITT, Box 59406, Pittsburgh, PA 15211 Johnnie D. Director

Nature: TransPitt is a non-profit non-sexual social organization with an open membership policy.

Services: Meetings the third Saturday of each odd numbered month. Referrals.

Security: Meeting with Club officer.

MID ATLANTIC, SOUTHEAST

JANUS/DC: c/o Gene Baker, Advisor, 5715 16th St., NW Washington, DC 20011
Nature: Transsexual support

ACADEMY AWARDS c/o B.A. Lind, Box 11254 Lincolnia Station, Alexandria, VA 22312
Nature: Theatrical drag, with an emphasis on the performing arts.

DELTA CHI CHAPTER: Box 11254 Lincolnia Sta., Alexandria, VA 22312
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'.

BALTIMORE-WASHINGTON: R. Lewis, P.O. Box 80724, Washington, DC 20004-0724
Nature: Non-profit social organization for members and friends of the TV/TS Community.

MY CHOICE: Kathy Stevens, 1417 McHenry St, Baltimore, MD 21223
Nature: TV/TS support

NORFOLK TS GROUP: Donna Johnston, Box 1923, Norfolk, VA 23501
Nature: Transsexual support

THE MONTGOMERY FOUNDATION, INC.: Gender Dysphoric Association, PO Box 33311, Decatur, GA 30033
Nature: Strictly a support group for male and female pre- and post-op transsexuals. No fees.
Services: Referrals, rap sessions, and programs designed for the needs of the transsexual.

THE ELITE TV CO.: c/o Gigi Grant, P.O. Box 47686, Atlanta, GA 30362

THE TRANSSEXUAL VOICE: P.O. Box 16314, Atlanta, GA 30321
Nature: A newsletter written by and about transsexuals. $2.00 per copy, $12.00 per year.

SERENITY: c/o Nikki Bee, PO Box 307, Hollywood, FL 33022

BUTTERNUT BELLES (AND GUYS) Box 3585, Knoxville, TN 37917, call: Wendy 524-1629 (between 7 and 9 p.m.)

*** Robin Bolles, Box 1008, New Smyrna Beach, FL 32070 is interested in developing a support group in central Florida, and perhaps acquiring a 'safe' house such as Tiffany's in Mass.

MIDWEST, SOUTH-CENTRAL

PARADISE CLUB Box 29564, Parma, OH 44129 Pres. Lindsay Maxwell, V.P. Ann Marie
Nature: Paradise is a non-profit non-sexual social organization with an emphasis on friendship and support (especially for wives). Paradise has approximately 90 members with an average of 50+ in attendance at each meeting.
Services: Paradise publishes a newsletter (Paradise Tales), and every other month sponsors a meeting with a catered dinner, and usually a special function such as a speaker, make-up advice, a show, etc. Paradise also sponsors informal socials during the months between regular meetings.
Security: Paradise welcomes all mature and responsible people, and places an emphasis on good manners, common sense, and the security of all. Membership is offered only after a personal interview with an officer. Non-members may attend meetings, with concurrence of officer. Open membership, but all members must be crossdressers, and must dress at meetings.

GENESIS Box 954, Elyria, OH 44036 (Attn: Jill)
Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

CROSS-PORT: (Attn: Heather), 2020 "B" Beechmont Ave, P.O. Box 150, Cincinnati, OH 45230
Nature: CROSS-PORT is a non-profit non-sexual organization for the male-to-female and female-to-male crossdresser and transsexual, and supportive friends, regardless of their sexual preference, practices, or orientation.
Services: CROSS-PORT publishes a monthly newsletter which is distributed to all it's members.
Security: All guests and members are expected to conduct themselves as ladies & gentlemen. Common sense is the rule. The mailing and membership lists are confidential. No member shall reveal the true name, address, telephone number or profession of another member to anyone, except with the other member's express permission.

CROSSROADS CHAPTER Crossroads, P.O. Box 196, Garden City, MI 48135 Milesa Phar, President
Nature: Crossroads is a non-profit non-sexual social organization emphasizing friendship and support and the peace of mind of all. Crossroads has a formal membership of approximately 90 and an informal membership of approximately 250.
Services: Crossroads publishes a newsletter (Crossroads Chatter), and sponsors both formal and casual social activities. Crossroads provides referrals to other organizations nationwide, and helping professionals in the Great Lake area. Crossroads also investigates agencies, businesses and organizations, and does considerable outreach work and publicity for the paraculture.
Security: Crossroads welcomes all mature and responsible people, and places an emphasis on good manners, common sense, and the security of all.

NATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ORGANIZATION and SUPPORT GROUP (N.G.D.O.): N.G.D.O., P.O. Box 02732, Detroit, MI 48202 313-842-5258, Justina Williams, Pres.
Nature: N.G.D.O. is a non-profit organization serving G.D. victims and crossdressers. It is a 'crossover' organization into the general public.
Services: N.G.D.O. publishes a newsletter ('N.G.D.O.-Key To Freedom'), and sponsors support groups for gender dysphoric persons, crossdressers and parents. N.G.D.O. also sponsors bible reading groups, a speaker bureau, and conventions.

WINDY CITY GENDER ALLIANCE: P.O. Box 2312, Chicago, IL 60690 Sharon Hart, President (312) 472-4518

Nature: W.C.G.A. is a non-profit non-sexual organization for the male-to-female and female-to-male crossdresser and transsexual, and supportive friends. W.C.G.A. membership is open to all crossdressers and transsexuals, regardless of their sexual preferences, practices, or orientation.

Services: W.C.G.A. provides social activities, referrals, and sponsors the annual 'Spring Fling' convention.

CHI CHAPTER (TRI ESS): Chi Chapter, c/o Naomi Owen, President, P.O. Box 342, Chicago, IL 60690

Nature: Chicago chapter of the Society for the Second Self, a non-profit organization for heterosexual crossdressers.

Services: Social activities, support group for wives and girlfriends, a helpline, newsletter, library, speakers bureau, and co-sponsor of 'Be All You Want To Be' weekend.

Security: Membership is open to heterosexual TVs only. Attendance requires an interview with the chapter president or older member to insure they are heterosexual and will comply with the Tri Ess code of conduct.

WISCONSIN NETWORK The Network, P.O. Box 632, Waukesha, WI 53187 (414) 542-5735 (3-9 p.m.)

Nature: The Network prefers to deal with people from a variety of life-styles (gay and bi- men and women, TVs, TSs, etc.) who are looking for long term relationships or help in developing relationships with others or with the family, friends, or other significant people in one's life.

Services: The Network includes a monthly newsletter, meetings monthly for gay men and women, bisexual men and women, and TVs and TSs. The Network also provides a monthly newsletter, social gatherings for special events, and a dating service.

PROGRAM IN HUMAN SEXUALITY 2630 University Ave, S.E, Minneapolis, MN 55414 Dr. Eli Coleman, Dir.

Services: Details not available at this time.

CITY OF LAKES CROSS-DRESSERS CLUB 3917 France Ave. So., Minneapolis, MN 55416, Heather Cowell, President, 612-920-3316

Nature: Monthly meetings. The group's purpose is to provide a comfortable social setting for cross-dressers to meet like-minded folks. We are a non-sexual group when together, however personal orientation of individual members is not considered when newcomers apply to join us.

Security: A personal interview before coming to the first party.

MINNEAPOLIS CHAPTER TRI-ESS c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

ST. LOUIS GATEWAY FEMMES: P.O. Box 1262, St Louis, MO 63188

Nature: Non-profit social organization for crossdressers and transsexuals.

ST. LOUIS CHAPTER TRI-ESS c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

BOULTON & PARK CULTURAL SOCIETY Box 169652, San Antonio, TX 78289-3252 Ms Mary Frances Williams, President

Nature: Open, non-profit, non-sexual support group for TVs, TSs, and their families and friends.

Services: Meetings, newsletter, business directory.

Security: Persons attending a meeting are subject to screening. We will deny access to any person that in our opinion represents a threat to our 'security' on an individual or group basis.

TRI DELTA CHAPTER TRI-ESS: Houston, TX, c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275

Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

GALVESTON PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES 6608 Stewary, #321, Galveston, TX 77551-1838 (713) 763-4522 Dr. Collier M. Cole

Services: Full range of psychotherapeutic and medical services are provide, including hormone therapy and surgery. Counseling and/or referrals around legal issues, speech therapy and cosmetic concerns is also available.

*** Elayne Rebecca A. (Tri-Ess # IA-1907-A) and several others are interested in forming a cross-dressers' support group in Iowa. Elayne may be contacted by mail forwarding either through Tapestry, or Tri-Ess.

INTER-MOUNTAIN, SOUTHWEST

GENDER IDENTITY CENTER OF COLORADO, INC. (G.I.C.): P.O. Box 11563, 3715 32nd Ave, Denver, CO. 80211 (303) 458-5378

Nature: G.I.C. is a non-profit, tax exempt, educational and affiliative organization designed to provide a public service to the community.

Services: G.I.C. provides information and education on the issues of cross-dressing and gender conflict through a library of books and journal articles, rap sessions, workshops and seminars, and guest speakers from various areas of the community including medical, legal, insurance, personal grooming, male and female appearance and behaviors, etc. G.I.C. also provides a Speaker's Bureau, and a 24 hour Hot-Line.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: 3715 W. 32nd Ave., Box 11563, Denver, CO 80211, 1-202-458-5378, Tomye Kelley, M.A. Psychotherapist

Nature: Private practice limited to work with crossdresser and gender conflicted and their significant others.

GENDER IDENTITY CENTER Southern Colorado Chapter: P.O. Box 5309, Pueblo, CO 81002

Nature: See G.I.C. Inc.

INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER, Colorado Office: 406 First National Bank Bldg, Box 402, Trinidad, CO 81082 Marsha Botzer, President, 206-281-0943 (in Washington)
Nature: See I.G.C., Seattle, WA.

GENDER IDENTITY COMMITTEE Department of Psychiatry, University of Utah, College of Medicine, 50 North Medical Dr., Salt Lake City, UT 84132 (801) 581-7951 Dr. Nyla J. Cole, MD
Services: Details not available at this time.

A ROSE: c/o Cindy Ann Mackenzie, P.O. Box 2943, Glendale, AZ 85301
Nature: A non-sexual support group for TVs, wives, friends, and relatives.

ALPHA ZETA (Arizona) CHAPTER TRI-ESS c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 92375
Nature: See 'Society for the Second Self'

TRANSITION CLUB, c/o TC Onekea, Box 42454, Las Vegas, NV 89116 731-5814 (ask for 'TC')
Nature: Private club for transsapiens who are transvestite, pre-op transsexual, & cross-dressers.
Services: Gatherings held at a private unpublished location. Friendship, companionship, recreation, business, travel, etc. etc. etc.....
Security: High regards for discretion.

CALIFORNIA

NEUTRAL CORNER c/o W. Thomas, Box 99732, San Diego, CA 92109
Nature: See 'Gateway Gender Alliance'

SAN DIEGO/OCEANSIDE CHAPTER (SHANGRI-LA): c/o Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713
Nature: See 'Shangri-La Club'

CROSSDRESSER HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB (CHIC)
CHIC, Box 562, Duarte CA 91010 213-456-6511
Nature: CHIC is for heterosexual transvestites or crossdressers only, wives, professional people (MDs, psychologists, teachers, etc.), and friends. We are a local Southern California organization. We offer support and friendship, and stress security and good manners.
Services: CHIC sponsors meetings, parties, monthly dinners, and seminars on make-up, wigs, clothes, etc. CHIC publishes a monthly newsletter (CHIC Clippings), and sponsors educational programs for the public.
Security: CHIC meetings are closed - members only and approved guests. All guests must be screened and approved by two Board members as well as the hostess if a home meeting. Prospective members must apply with a written application, be interviewed by two members of the membership committee and then approved by the Board of Directors. CHIC emphasizes strict security for all its members and guests.

NATIONAL GENDER PROJECT Box 126, Northridge, CA 91328 Dr. Richard F. Docter, Dir.
Nature: Research in the TV-TS phenomena

ALPHA CHAPTER (LOS ANGELES, TRI-ESS): c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare, CA 93275
Nature: See 'Society For The Second Self'

SCYROS CHAPTER (LOS ANGELES, SHANGRI-LA): c/o Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine, CA 92713
Nature: See 'Shangri-La Club'

J2CP INFORMATION SERVICES: P.O. Box 184, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693-0184 714-496-5227
Nature: J2CP provides information/referral services formerly provided by the Erickson Educational Foundation and JANUS Information Facility.
Services: J2CP provides an information package consisting of pamphlets and literature concerning gender dysphoria syndrome, TVism and TSism. This info package is available at a cost of $25.00 to cover research, printing, postage and secretarial services. Also, J2CP will provide referrals to reputable counselors, psychotherapists, or gender programs, and peer groups near your home.
Certified checks or money orders should be made payable to J2CP Information Services Specify whether you are M-F, F-M, or TV. If TS please provide your place of birth.

SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare CA 93275
Nature: Tri Ess is a non-profit organization exclusively for heterosexual crossdressers.
Services: Tri Ess provides a correspondence directory, of commercial services, a magazine (The Femme Mirror), and chapters throughout the U.S.
Security: Membership in Tri Ess is open to heterosexual TVs only. Membership and attendance at a local chapter meeting requires an interview with the chapter president or older member to insure they are heterosexual and will comply with the Tri Ess code of conduct.

SHANGRI-LA CLUB Nancy Watson, Box 18202, Irvine CA 92713
Nature: Shangri-La is a non-profit social organization for crossdressers. Shangri La places emphasis on friendship and security.
Services: Shangri-La provides a bi-monthly newsletter (Le Femme), membership directory, identification card, free mail forwarding, reduced rate invitation to regional events, a commercial services directory, and a manual on how to form local chapters. Shangri La sponsors two major events, the 5-day Spring Shangri La (Biloxi), and June Shangri La (Southern California). Shangri-La has local chapters throughout the U.S.
Security: Prospective members are interviewed by Nancy Watson or officers of the local chapters.

RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION: P.O. Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170
Nature: Formerly San Jose Chapter, GGA. Non-profit non-sexual social/support group for TVs, TSs, and their significant others regardless of their gender or sexual orientation.
Services: Social activities, peer sup-

port, educational programs, outreach work, public education. Visitors welcome.

SANTA ROSA CHAPTER: 2525 Cleveland Ave., Santa Rosa, CA 95401 707-526-2500
Nature: Formerly Santa Rosa Chapter, GGA. Social/support.

SACRAMENTO CHAPTER: Bonnie Goodwin, Box 38918, Sacramento, CA 95838
Nature: Formerly Sacramento Chapter, GGA. Social/Support.

SOCIETY OF JANUS - SACRAMENTO GROUP: c/o Box 6794, San Francisco, CA 94101
Nature: For persons interested in B&D

EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL (ETVC): ETVC, Box 6486, San Francisco, CA 94101
Nature: ETVC is a delightful group of TVs, TSs, TGs, Significant Others, and friends. It is intended as a social and educational group, to meet and have a good time as well as help educate the public. ETVC is non-sexual, and has an open membership policy with approximately 165 members.
Services: ETVC publishes a bi-monthly newsletter ('The ETVC Newsletter'), provides a program of social and educational activities, and referrals.
Security: The mailing and membership lists are confidential. Only the officers are permitted access to either list, except in response to judicial process. No member shall reveal the true name, address, telephone number or profession of another member to anyone, except with the other member's express permission.

GENDER IDENTITY ANONYMOUS (GIA): No mailing address available, but meets every Thursday in the Science of Mind Room at 3255 Balboa Street (near 34th Ave), San Francisco.
Nature: Transgender support group.

FEMALE TO MALE TRANSSEXUAL GROUP: The Billy DeFrank Community Center, 86 Keyes St., San Jose, CA (408) 293-4525, or, Hal, (408) 293-2429
Nature: Female to Male transsexual support.

HARRY BENJAMIN INTERNATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ASSOCIATION (HBIGDA), 900 Welch Road #402, Stanford, CA 94304
Nature: A non-profit professional group with special interest in the area of gender dysphoria syndrome.

THE PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH, P.O. Box 908, Berkeley, CA 94701 (415) 548-8283 Allanya Guenther, Executive Director
Nature: The Pacific Center is a private, non-profit agency funded by United Way, county revenue sharing funds, sliding scale fees, and contributions. The Center is dedicated to providing high-quality services to sexual minority people of all races, ages, and backgrounds.
Services: Educational services and outreach into the community at large. Speaker's Bureau. Counseling. Group meetings. Hot line (415) 841-6224.

NORTHWEST

NORTHWEST GENDER ALLIANCE (N.W.G.A.): Box 4928, Portland OR 97208
Nature: N.W.G.A. is a non-profit non-sexual social organization serving the crossdressing community.
Services: The Northwest Chapter has at least one function each month. The days vary in order to allow all of our girls to attend as often as is possible. We also publish a monthly newsletter.
Security: Private interview with the chapter president.

SALMACIS, The Equalitarian Feminist Social Society, PO Box 1604, Eugene, OR, 97440-1604 Sally Ann Douglas, Social Director, Leslie-Shawn Witham, Hypnotherapist 503-688-4282 (Sally Ann, 6 - 11 p.m. PST)
Nature: Salmacis is a social and service society devoted to the concept of equalitarian feminism; supporting all those who desire to become women, or are women.
Services: Direct telephone counselling, contact with others who have similar interests, contact with our central organization, contact with other organizations, personal growth workshops. Also, publishes "Femmes Together", and "the Equalitarian Feminist."

SALISHON, The Womyn's Information Network PO Box 1604, Eugene, OR 97440-1604 Leslie-Shawn Witham, Director
Nature: Salishon is a service and information network for womyn who perceive themselves living an alternative lifestyle.
Services: The only femininity clinic for males and she-males that is run by a staff of professional women.

PEOPLE REALIZING IDENTITY DIFFERENCES EMERGING (PRIDE): c/o Tiffany Wonder, 9130 SW Oleson Rd, #A-1, Portland, OR 97223 503-244-7171
Nature: Transsexual support.

EMERALD CITY Box 31318, Seattle, WA 98103 Janice Van Cleve, Secretary
Nature: The Emerald City is a non-profit non-sexual organization providing social and educational services for the transvestite community of Seattle and the Northwest. Promotes positive public image in the media, in the professions, and in the business community. Provides assistance and opportunities for public presentation as well as pleasant private parties and good friendships. Independent organization but works closely with Ingersoll Gender Center and the Seattle Counseling Service.
Services: At least one function each month with updated listing of acceptable vendors and contacts to a wide variety of products and services. Monthly newsletter and educational services.
Security: Must be sponsored by an active, participating member or attend the TV/TS Support Group at the Seattle Counseling Service, and be accepted by an officer of the Emerald City. Mailing lists are strictly confidential.

THE INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER 4604 Stone Way N., Seattle, WA 98103 marsha Botzer, President, 206-281-0943

Nature: A non-profit organization serving the transsexual-transvestite community.

Services: Individual and group counseling, professional consultation to service providers, referrals, research, and public information presentation. Works closely with the Seattle Counseling Service.

NORTH AMERICAN TRANSVESTITE-TRANSSEXUAL TELEPHONE CONTACT SERVICE (NATTCS): 801 E. Harrison St, Suite 706, Seattle, WA 98102 (206) 624-8266 Executive Director Philip Salem

Nature: The NATTCS' s primary function is to act as a direct dating service for TVs, TSs and admirers. The Service has over 6200 contacts nationwide.

Services: The Contact Service provides a 24 hour hotline for TVs, TSs and admirers throughout the country. It also provides information gratis on plastic surgery, electrolysis, and hormone therapy.

SEATTLE COUNSELLING SERVICE 1505 Broadway, Seattle, WA 98122 (206) 329-8707

Services: Counseling service for sexual minorities, weekly support group for TVs and TSs.

SEXUAL IDENTITY CENTER 2139 Kuhio Ave, Honolulu, HI 96813 (808) 926-1000

Services: Therapists, referrals, special support group for TVs and TSs.

CANADA

TRANSVESTITES AU MONTREAL (TAM): Box 1, 164 Station H, Montreal Que Can H3G-2N1 514-352-7481

Nature: TAMS is a non-profit non-sexual social organizations with an open membership policy.

Services: TAMS publishes a newsletter (The Garter Press), and has frequent social get-togethers.

Security: No particular requirements stated, but participants are expected to protect the security of all.

QUEBEC TRANSSEXUALS AID, INC. (A.T.Q. INC.): Viviane Belanger, C.P. 691, Mont-Royal, Quebec, Canada H3P 3G4

Nature: French speaking transsexual support.

Services: Meetings, medical referrals, etc.

METAMORPHOSIS MEDICAL RESEARCH FOUNDATION: Box 5963, Station 'A', Toronto, Ontario Canada M5W-1P4

Nature: Metamorphosis serves the Female to Male transsexual (gender dysphoric male).

Services: To provide research and information relevant to the F-M TS, to raise funds for research, to counsel the F-M TS, to educate the professional, para-professional and lay public on gender and sexual dysphoria, to provide peer support, and work cooperatively with other clinics and support groups.

FEDERATION OF AMERICAN AND CANADIAN TRANSSEXUALS (FACT): Box 291, Station 'A', Hamilton Ontario Canada L8N-3C8 416-529-7884

Nature: FACT is a non-profit support organization for transsexuals, relatives and friends of transsexuals, professionals and para-professionals working in the field of gender dysphoria and others prepared to support the aims of the Foundation.

Services: Information distribution concerning transsexualism. Publishes 'Gender Review', a periodical news sheet. Offers peer support and peer counselling. Organizes support groups across Canada wherever these are feasible and has area representatives wherever possible. Provides speakers on transsexualism to the mass media and others. FACT Toronto meets each month on the evening of the second Friday at 519 Church St. Community Centre. Visitors welcome. Inquire to head office for other meetings. Chapters include:

South Central Ontario, c/o Miss Robin Marie Schwartzentruber, P.O. Box 1842, Station 'C', Kitchener, Ontario, N3G-4R3 576-5248

Eastern Ontario, Ottawa Valley, c/o Miss Nicole Boivin, P.O. Box 523, Gatineau, Quebec, J8P-7A1

Niagara Peninsula, c/o Miss Susan Huxford, P.O. Box 291 Station 'A', Hamilton, Ontario, L8N-3C8 529-7884

Montreal & Quebec Province, c/o Ms Patricia G.S. Fisher, C.P. 293, Succ. Cote Des Neiges, Montreal, Quebec, H3S 2S6

FACT Toronto, c/o Box 882, Station F, Toronto, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2N 416-598-0433

Atlantic Region U.S.A., Karen Aldrich, P.O. Box 9238, North Dartmouth, MA 02747

Pacific Region U.S.A., TS Counseling, 1550 California St., Suite 6201, San Francisco, CA 94109

Western New York Region, Miss Robyn Bates, PO Box 314, Buffalo, NY 14223

Security: No screening for members or subscribers to 'Gender Review'. Meetings of FACT Toronto meets each month on the evening of the second Friday at the '519 Community Centre'. Local groups establish their own security procedures, e.g. FACT Niagara meetings are by invitation only.

GENDERSERVE Box 291, Station 'A', Hamilton Ontario Canada L8N-3C8 416-529-7884

Nature: Counselling education and research services, registered in Ontario as a proprietorship and operating as a non-profit organization serving TSs TVs and gender dysphoric people in general, homosexuals, wives, friends and relatives. Services for a nominal fee (to cover expenses). Inquiries by mail or phone. No collect calls. The proprietor has screened a number of professional organizations in the USA.

Services: Counselling in sexual matters for individuals and couples. Pastoral counselling if requested. Referrals. Initial counselling session (mail or telephone) free of charge. Lectures, radio/TV and other mass media interviews by arrangement. Group counselling and therapy by request. Publishes booklets and papers of a professional counselling nature (reviewed in SIECUS Report). Public education by articles, etc. for press release. Role-playing and simulation exercises.

ALBERTA TV AND TS CONTACT CLUB: P.O. Box 4667 Stn. C, Calgary, AL T2T 5P1, Canada, Pres. Danielle Smith

Nature: Contact Club is a non-profit organization incorporated in Alberta for transvestites, transsexuals and their admirers.

Services: The Club provides monthly get-togethers, a newsletter, information, support, counselling, and contacts.

Security: Each member is expected to be tolerant of other members of the club regardless of personal sexual preferences, or limits a member places on the contacts wished. Each member respects other members of the Club, and does not entice another member into surpassing limits that a member has set for himself.

FOREIGN

BEAUMONT SOCIETY Box 3084, London WC1N-3XX England

Nature: Beaumont is a non-profit non-sexual organization for heterosexual transvestites throughout Great Britain.

Services: Beaumont sponsors evening and weekend functions, provides counseling for TVs with problems, and a contact system for members. Beaumont also publishes two bi-monthly magazines, "The Beaumont Bulletin" which contains editorial notices, personal ads, a shopping guide, regional news, etc., and "Beaumag" which contains fictional, biographical or autobiographical stories. Beaumont also provides a library, legal advice, and a liaison and referral to other organizations. Beaumont has a network of organizations throughout Great Britain, and affiliations world-wide.

Security: Private interview with a qualified member.

TV/TS GROUP: Yvonne Sinclair, The TV/TS Group, 274 Upper Street, Islington, London England N.1 01-359-4868 (8-10 p.m. Fri., Sat. & Sun.)

Nature: Open membership, non-sexual. Additional information not available at this time.

Services: Social activities, publishes 'The Glad Rag'.

SELF HELP ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSSEXUALS (SHAFT): 46 Liddell Way, South Ascot, Berkshire, England SL5 9UX

Nature: Details are unavailable at this time.

FRIENDS MERSEYSIDE 14 Colquitt St., Liverpool, England L1 4DE 051-708-0234

Nature: See 'Beaumont Society'

SCOTTISH TV/TS GROUP c/o SHRG 58a Broughton St., Edinburgh EH1 35A Scotland (031) 556-4049

TRANS-CCL Rev. Joseph Douce, Centre du Christ Liberateur, Minorites Sexuelles, TRANS-CCL, 3 Bis, rue Clairaut, 75017 Paris - France Tel.(1) 226.70.48 (Rev. Douce speaks English)

Nature: TRANS-CCL is a non-profit social organization for sexual minorities, non-political, with Christian foundation, but also open to people with other convictions. We have a large section for transsexuals and transvestite, probably the largest one in Europe (about 500 contacts). We can provide legal, medical, psychological, pastoral and surgical help for transsexuals. We organize meetings, meals, etc... We have a large documentation on transsexuality. We can also provide all information available in Europe.

Services: A telephone help-line Mondays from 8p.m. to 10p.m. at (1) 627-4936. Meetings. Meals. Legal, medical, psychological and pastoral literature, and advisors.

FEMME TRAVESTIE 8023 Zurich, Switzerland Postfach 6788

Nature: Very active social group in Switzerland. Other details are unavailable at this time.

F.P.E. NORTHERN EUROPE: M.A. Postboks 192 DK2600, Glostrup, Denmark (Do not put F.P.E. on envelope)

Nature: See 'Beaumont Society'

ASSOCIATION BEAUMONT CONTINENTALE: Gaby Linsig, 2 Rue des Charpentiers, 68270 Wittenheim, France

Nature: See 'Beaumont Society'

ELIZABETH CLUB Ant Trading Co., Sakata Building, 1-12 Iwamoto-cho Kanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101, Japan

Nature: The Elizabeth Club was established in 1979 for transsexuals, androgynes, and transgenderists. We are located in major centers such as Tokyo, Osaka and Nagoya.

Services: We offer storage facilities for our members. We also have consultants available for helping members with make-up and dressing. There is a rental service of clothing, wigs, etc. for members. The Elizabeth Club also publishes a magazine called "Queen" every other month. The magazine serves as a source of information to members on activities and events in Japan.

TS TRANSVESTITES TV
JOIN
TURNABOUT
Benefits Include: Personal Letter Forwarding
Confidential Code Number • Important News & Events
Latest Books • Movies • Magazines • Attire • Novelties

Sample Copy & Brochures $7.00
Over 21 State Age
Confidential and Discreet Service
Order From: Executive Imports
210 Fifth Ave. (TAP) New York, N.Y. 10010

THE SEAHORSE CLUB OF AUSTRALIA Box R341, Royal Exchange, Sydney, 2000, Australia

Nature: Seahorse Club is a non-profit social organization for transvestites and families. Membership of approximately 150, welcomes new members, overseas visitors and offers support to those of us unable to emerge by means of affiliate membership. Affiliated with the Beaumont Society of England.

Services: Seahorse distributes information on shopping, coming events, being femme by means of a monthly newsletter to members and publishes the magazine "Feminique" on a regular basis. Meetings are held in sydney on the last Friday of each month (except December, when the meeting is the 2nd or 3rd Friday). Meetings provide friendship, beauty assistance, etc.

Security: Seahorse places strong emphasis on security for all members and requires screening of prospective members before attending meetings. However, no screening is required of affiliate members (who are not advised of the meeting places) unless they wish to become full members. Overseas members require screening in the same way and overseas visitors need to be either screened or have necessary accreditation from a similar organization (e.g. Beaumont Society, Tiffany's).

SEAHORSE VICTORIA: c/o GPO Box 2337V, Melbourne, VICTORIA, 3001 Australia

Nature: See 'Seahorse Club'. The longest running TV organization in Australia.

PERSONAL LISTINGS

How to respond to a Personal Listing:

1.) If the address is given, write directly to that address.

2.) If the address is Name & Membership #, follow these directions exactly:

A.) Place your letter in a stamped envelope. (No unstamped mail will be forwarded).

B.) Pencil in the name and membership # of the person to whom the letter is meant. (i.e. 'Merissa Lynn NH-0001). We need to be able to erase the identifying name and replace it with the forwarding name. Therefore, no letter with the identifying name in ink will be forwarded).

C.) Place that letter inside another envelope and mail to

"Tiffany Club,"
P.O. Box 19
Wayland, MA 01778.

LINDA L. (N. NY) 5/85

WM, 40, 140, interested in cross-dressing.

"I have no interest in passing, but I would like to meet and/or correspond with those secure enough to pass."

Linda L (NY-0726)

JERI LEE (N.W. WA) 5/85

SWM hetero closet TV, 28, 6'.

"I care, like to help others. I enjoy many interests, and am willing to share them with others. I would like to meet TVs & TSs and women who are understanding so I can get out of the closet, enjoy the feminine side of me, and hope to make some friends along the way."

Jeri Lee (WA-0725)

SARAH ANNE D. (FL) 5/85

Life-time TV, 71 (retired), 5'6", 163, light brown hair.

Interests: Flea markets, garage sales, model railroads, travel.

"Will answer all."

Sarah D. (FL-0558)

ANNE MARIE C. (NS CAN) 5/85

WM bi-TV, 38, 5'11", 180.

"I want to correspond and meet TVs and TSs in Canada, and the Northeast U.S. I travel often to the Northeast part of the U.S. and would like to correspond to share fantasies with other TV sisters and maybe meet in person in the future."

Mike Chaplin, P.O. Box 1446, Halifax North Station, Halifax, NS B3K 5H7 Canada

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MERISSA SHERRILL LYNN (NH)

Executive secretary Tiffany Club, Managing Director Tapestry, Director I.F.G.E.

SWM TV, 44, 6', 200, BA philosophy, athletically oriented (pro skier 8 years), ACBL (bridge) life master. A caring person, sincerely interested in the well-being of others.

Interests: Folk singing, bridge, skiing, the wilderness, the flowers, and listening to the birds sing. Also interested in philosophy.

"I'm sorry but I cannot respond to personal correspondence. However, I'm very interested in hearing from people who would like to become 'leaders', and are willing to put out some effort on behalf of the TV/TS Community. So, if you are a leader-type person and willing to put out some effort to help others, write to me, or better, give me a call."

Merissa Sherrill Lynn, Box 19, Wayland MA 01778 (617)358-5575

JOHNNIE D. (W. PA) 6/85

Member: Paradise Club, Trans-Pitt

Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, Lee Brewster's P-town Outing, Be All You Want To Be Weekend, Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Outing

MWM, 37, 5'5". Passes very well.

Interests: Loves travel, shopping, dressing, theater, music, and dancing.

"I am president of a group in Pittsburgh. Any TV in the Tri-State area can contact me for information."

Johnnie D., c/o TransPitt, Box 59406, Pittsburgh, PA 15210

Merissa Sherrill Lynn (NH-0001)

TARA M. (OH) 5/85
Enjoys golf, racquetball, reading.
"Would like to meet other TVs &CDs to help me appreciate my crossdressing."
Tara M (OH-0732)

KAREN V (Northern NJ) 7/86
Member: Tiffany
SWM hetero TV, 38, 5'8, 155, good personality and sense of humor. Adventouress. "A classical music nut, I also enjoy card & word games, karate (black belt),skiing, and gourmet food. I would like to meet women who share some of these interests and are open minded about the cross dressing scene.
Karen V (NJ-0347)

CHERYL A. MCBRIDE (N. NY) 6/86
Participant: Fantasia Fair '84
SWM, TS, 34, 5'7", 145. Passable in most situations.
Interests: X-C skiing, camping, cycling, photography, dancing, lively parties, and meeting people.
"I'm interested in forming friendships with both men and women who accept me as a woman. I'm sincerely interested in exploring and developing the female side of my personality."
Cheryl M (NY-0350)

AUDREY M (Eastern MA) 8/86
MWM bi-TV, 52, 155, 5'10, nice, intelligent, well adjusted, sense of humor. Enjoys current events, music, sailing, photography, woodworking. Would like to have a few TV friends for casual get-togethers; freedom limited to weekdays 9-6.
Neil Moses, Box 66, Allston, MA 02134

ADRIENNE R. (MD) 5/85
SWM, 33, slender, thrills to the pinch of high heels during a long walk, the gentle bounce of a skirt against nylon-clad knees.
Seeks correspondence, photo exchange, possible meetings with women, TVs in the MD, VA, DC area. Enjoys very feminine fashions--dresses, bows, gloves, heels, makeup, lingerie. Hopes to find friends with similar interests for mutual improvement of our female selves.
Adrienne R. (MD-0721)

Dee Dee W. (CT-0002)

DEE DEE W (Hartford CT) 3/86
I'd like the girls at Tiffany
Who like to write,
To write to me.
A photograph, a kindly note
Will make me say,
"I'm glad she wrote."
Dee Dee W (CT-0002)

Johnnie D. (PA-0448)

MAEGAN M. TAYLOR (N. NJ) 5/85
MWM, 42, 5'10", 150, shy, sensitive, sincere, somewhat introverted, artist, architect.
Interests: My children (4), gardening, nouvelle cuisine (cooking & eating), philosophy, psychology (particularly R.D. Laing), theology, music, genetic engineering.
"I would like an answer to the question 'Why didn't I do this sooner?'"
Maegan T (NJ-0716)

TARA TENILLE (N. CA) 6/85
Member: GGA, Society of Janus (Co-ordinator Sacramento Branch), ETVC
Participant: Spring Fling '85
Bi-TV, mid 30's, single, can entertain or travel.
Interests: Photography, music, dancing, travel, learning, corsets, high heels, nights out on the town, adventure, and people who are a little bit crazy.
"I want to travel more and meet new, sincere, serious friends and dates - nationwide and worldwide. I enjoy erotic dress more than formal dress and always love to compare notes with those of like interests. Most of my clothes are custom-made. Will answer all,, but photo and SASE appreciated."
Tara Tenille, Box 13033, Sacramento, CA 95812-3033

Tara Tenille (CA-0752)

ALICIA EVANS (ME) 5/85
WM M-F pre-op TS, 31, 6', 150.
Interests: Music (pop/rock writer/performer), outdoors, people, politics, philosophy, computers, psychology, and all feminine things.
"I have many hetero friends who accept me for who I am and encourage me to be all I can be, but I would like to meet other TSs and TVs and become active in the Paraculture. Letters, photo, phone communication also desired. Please write."
Alicia Evans, Box 1056, Westbrook, ME 04092

LAURA LEE (SE MA) 5/85
DWM TV, 26, 5'6", 145, brown hair, blue eyes.
Interests: New experiences, romance, walks on the beach, nature.
"I feel alone and would enjoy TV, TS, & women friends to talk to, meet, and dress with. I am new to cross-dressing, and need wardrobe help. I love nylons & heels and the feel of silk. The ideal friend would be a passable TV, TS or woman around my age, to help me explore all aspects of TV life, and possibly date. Will answer all."
Laura L (MA-0729)

JUDITH ANNE THOMPSON (MA) 5/85
Widowed WM crossdresser, 63, 175, intelligent, honest and retired. Good listener.
Interests: Likes nature photography, hiking, gardening, & good music.
"I would like contact with crossdressers in SE MA area for companionship, and like interests."
Judith T. (MA-0733)

JUDY LEIGH S. (N.E. MA) 4/86
Member: Tiffany Club
Married TV, 47, 5'4", pleasant, shy.
"I enjoy all sports & travel & dance music, plus just having a good time with good friends. I like to get dressed & go for rides to visit other friends."
Judy S., c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

KAREN A. (SE MA) 7/85
Member: Tiffany
M-F TS, 40, 5'10", 155, passes. College degree.
Interests: Cooking, some sewing, tennis, pro sports, fishing, loves the outdoors.
"I'm interested in meeting other TSs for personal friendships. Would also like to form a peer support group for TSs in SE Mass. area. I am caring, straight forward, honest and sincere."
Karen A. (MA-0763)

MELISSA FOSTER (S. CA) 6/85
SWM TV, 35, 5'10", 168.
Interests: Traveling, sports, dancing, & having social get-togethers.
"I want to meet other TVs & TSs, couples and singles for friendship and lasting relationships. I travel around the country and love being able to stop and visit friends."
Melissa Foster, Box 816, Lakewood, CA 90714

HILLARY DU NIC SEAMUS (WI) 6/85
Member: The Network
Participant: 'Be All You Want To Be' W/E
SWM hetero TV, 42, 6'.
Interests: Stamps, silver-age comic books, classical music, Medievalist.
"I'm hoping that in meeting kindred souls the 'true' Hillary will blossom."
Hillary S., c/o James W. Hill, Jr, Box 10450, Milwaukee, WI 53210

ASHLEE O. (SE FL) 6/85
Participant: Fantasia Fair '84, 'Be All You Want To Be' W/E
"I would like to meet other heterosexual crossdressers. I am married, and live in Miami. I do not mind traveling within the state."
Ashlee O. (FL-0750)

Janice H. (MA-0254)

JANICE H. (MA) 4/86
Member: Tri-Ess
Participant: Fantasia Fair (4 times)
DWM hetero TV, 60, 5'6", 150, brown hair and blue eyes. A little on the quiet side, but makes friends easily. Doesn't smoke.
Interests: Eating out in a nice restaurant, loves country music, good movies, and dressing up.
"Will answer all letters."
Janice H. (MA-0254)

WILMA JANE PETERS (N. NY) 6/85
"I would like to have a dialogue with other TVs regarding our interests and exchange experiences. I love all the feminine things of life like cooking, sewing, and other household duties."
Wilma Jane Peters, Box 5361, Albany, NY 12205

ROBBIE B. (MI) 7/85
Member: Tri Ess, Crossroads
MWM TV, 50's, Evangelical Christian, non-smoker, non-drinker, does not pass.
Interests: High heels, corsetry, makeup. Desires correspondence with likeminded TVs.
R. Baker, Box 4253, East Lansing, MI 48823

Carla Goldsneider (CT-0212)

CARLA E. GOLDSNIDER (CT) 6/85
SWM hetero TV, 53, 5'10", quiet, not pushy, very understanding.
"I love to crossdress. Would like to meet TVs and females for girl talk and develop friendships. Also like to go out in public dressed - told I pass easily. I'm single and live alone in a small house in the country."
Carla E. Goldsnider, 3741 South St., Coventry, CT 06238

ARLENE L. (SE NY) 7/85
Member: GGA, Tri Ess
Interests: The sciences in general; in particular astronomy and geology.
"I'm looking forward to correspondence and possible future meetings with understanding persons."
Arlene L. (NY-0758)

CATHERINE ROSEMARY D. (E PA) 6/85
Member: Outreach
SWM hetero crossdresser, 60, 5'9", 190.
"It's unlikely that I would pass, but am interested in the world of the crossdresser, and would like to get acquainted."
Catherine D. (PA-0748)

JOAN M. BRIDGMAN (ON Can) 6/86
Member: FACT-Toronto
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, GGA's Spring Fling
5'7", 170, 40s, size 16.
Interests: Photography, theatre.
"I'm willing to meet TVs and TSs, and show them my town if and when they are in Toronto."
Joan M. Bridgman, 25 Wood St, A-305, Toronto, ON M47 2P9 Canada

LINDA PIERSON (CT) 5/85
Interests: Music, clothes, parties, sports, & travel.
"I want to get the help necessary to become a very passable female. I also want to meet TVs & TSs who can help and be friends."
Linda P. (CT-0734)

Charlene Byrd (TX-0586)

CHARLENE BYRD (TX) 8/85
Member: Tiffany Club, GGA, Tri Ess, ETVC
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Tri Ess Holiday En Femme
Awards: Runner-up Miss ETVC '85
5'8", 145, married, occasionally passable. Enjoys hugs, people, singing, acting, quiet music, cooking, fixing things.
"I'm a people person, warm, caring, honest and non-judgmental. I'm interested in going out with other crossdressers, and will answer all."
Charlene Byrd, P.O. Box 693, Mason, TX 76856

BETTE J. (N TX) 7/86
Member: Tiffany, GGA, Tri Ess
Participant: Tiffany P-town '85
MWM hetero TV, 5'9", 50, size 18. Can pass. Never met a stranger.
Enjoys parties, and being a girl.
"I've dressed forever, and now I'm out of the closet. I travel extensively, and would like to meet other TV girls. Would especially like to help and advise those who are just starting to come out."
Bette J. (MA-0543)

SAMANTHA WALLS (TX) 7/85
Member: Chi Chapter Tri Ess
Participant: DREAM, 'Be All You Want To Be' W/E
MWM TV, 45, 5'11", 170, size 18.
"I'm interested in correspondence, and meeting other TVs (and their wives) in the north Texas area."
Samantha Walls, #158, 5551 Parker Henderson Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76119

Janine Bridget D. (RI-0331)

JANINE BRIDGET (RI) 7/86
Pre-op TS, 5'9", 140, auburn hair blue eyes.
Interests: Computers, photography, Sci-Fi, sewing, embroidery.
"I would like to meet individuals who can teach me to be confident in the female role I wish to lead."
Jan, P.O. Box 562, Coventry, RI 02816

Camile Mc. (NY-0582)

CAMILE MC. (SE NY) 7/86
Member: Tiffany Club, Chi Delta Mu Tri-Ess
Hetero crossdresser, 72, 5'10", 164, methodist, widower. Honest, & security conscious. Doesn't drink, smoke, or gamble. Loves & enjoys people, and lives by the old-fashioned 'golden rule', and a strict moral code.
Enjoys crossdressing, & repairing things around the house. Loves C&W music, writes music & plays various instruments. Taught drumming.
"I'm a widower for 7 years, and would love to meet a nice woman who will accept me part time en femme, or better, as 'sister companion', and sometimes as male companion."
C.A.M. Mc., Box 207, Pelham, NY 10803

BOBBIE B. (SE MA) 8/85
Bi WM, 5'6", 130, 49, average to good looks.
"I enjoy crossdressing from wig to heels. Would like to meet other bi or gay TVs or TSs to meet and enjoy each other's company. I live on the South Shore."
Bobbie B. (MA-0461)

JAMIE WEST (HI) 8/85
Hetero TV, 5'10", 36, enjoys photography, flying, and diving.
"My greatest joy is dressing in my 'girly' things. Please write and swap photos."
Jamie West, Box 1552, Wahiawa, Hawaii 96786

REBECCA REDSING (N CA) 8/85
Member: GGA
Travels extensively and enjoys meeting others with similar interests. Loves to spend quiet evenings in a negligee reading and listening to music, or engaging in light conversation. Wishes to correspond with others interested in fashions, make-up, and the enhancement of the feminine image.
Rebecca R. (CA-0778)

SANDY JOHNSON (CT) 8/85
Hetero life-long crossdresser, 5'11", 200, 24, brown hair, brown eyes, has nice legs, married.
Interests: Music, going for walks, dancing, being myself, silk dresses and nylons and heels.
"I'm interested in sharing my experiences with others. I would like to meet others in the Hartford, CT area for friendly conversation and support. I'll answer all sincere replies."
Sandy J. (CT-0791)

Linda Carson (OH-0793)

LINDA CARSON (OH) 8/85
Member: Paradise Club
Participant: 'Be All You Can Be' W/E
MWM, 5'8", 160, 49.
Interests: Photography, travel, shopping.
"I'm not very fast at answering correspondence."
Linda Carson, Box 86, Dayton, OH 45409

JENNIFER BARTON (E. MA) 7/85
MWM, 6'4", 205, brown hair, blue eyes, sensitive, caring.
Enjoys biking, music, video, basketball, some tennis, feeling & looking beautiful (hopefully).
"I would like to meet someone in the Boston area who is interested in fashion, and could help me with clothes, makeup, etc (TV, TS, or F). I will answer all mail."
Ms Jennifer Barton, Box 622, Allston, MA 02134

Lynn M. (NY-0771)

LYNN M. (W NY) 7/85
Member: EON
MWM TV (former TS), 5'10", 140, 42. Not beautiful but pass easily in public. Married to Wonder Woman.
Interests: Gourmet food (cooking and eating), music, costumes, computers, Cape Ann, femininity.
"I would like to meet interesting people, especially other couples who are relaxed with the TV 'paraculture'. Would also like to help others come to the same level of love and understanding we have found."
Lynn M. (NY-0771)

BOBBIE K. (CA) 7/85
Member: GGA, Tri Ess
Interests: Cooking, beachwalking, playing guitar (badly), woodworking, auto restoration.
"I would like to contact sisters in the Oxnard-Ventura-Camarillo area to write & get together."
Bobbie K. (CA-0760)

Diantha Kay (VT-0214)

DIANTHA KAY (VT) 7/86
Member: Tiffany, TV Entertainers, TAM
Gender Community advocate; interested in developing close lasting friendships. Serious, sincere, supportive, fun loving. Enjoy life, people, open sharing dialogue, resisting adulthood, and above all simply being me. Avid correspondent. Many interests. M to F gender person, Sagittarian, 12-12-37, Nordic origins, fair, blonde, blue eyes, 5'11", 160.
D. Kay, Box 264, Vergennes, VT 05491

MARCIE P. (RI) 9/85
MWM, 5'5", 185, 29.
Interests: Scuba diving, photography, boating, sci-fi books and fine art of cross-dressing.
"I've been told I'm passable, but haven't tried yet. Looking for 'sisters' in my general area with similar interests, but will answer all. Come on girls, let's be friends!"
Marcie P. (RI-0806)

MICHELLE H. (E. MA) 7/85
M-F TS, 5'9", 145, 28, attractive.
Interested in creating androgynous lifestyle, explaining all aspects of gender identity.
"I would love to hear from all. I'm particularly interested in hearing from those who lead or have led a gay lifestyle, but cross-dress, and think they might be transsexual."
Michelle H (MA-0576)

ROSALIND HART (NM) 7/85
Member: Tiffany, GGA
MM hetero TV, mid-50's (but appear younger). Highly educated and intelligent professional. Non-smoker.
Interests: Loves to wear pretty lingerie, girdles, nylons, high heels, makeup, etc.
"I'm relatively uninhibited under proper circumstances. Married at present, but wife doesn't really approve. I travel occasionally. Seeking TVs or understanding female friends with similar or compatible interests."
Rosalind H. (NM-0768)

Jamie West (HI-0786)

FRANCINE G. (S. CA) 8/85
Member: Alpha Chapter Tri Ess
Single hetero male - oriental extraction, 5'8", 123, 30.
Interests: Painting, drawing, classical music (listening), audio, health & nutrition, photography, stage & women's make-up.
"The complete task of being a woman, emotionally and mentally as well as physically, absorbs me. I have made wonderful new friends since 'coming out' in May of '85, and hope to make many more. Have fairly good appearance for a beginner."
Francine G. (CA-0789)

Danielle B. (AL CAN)

DANIELLE B. (AL Can) 8/85
Member: Alberta TV-TS Contact Club (founder), FACT
Bi TV, 5'6", 140, physically fit, brown hair (sometimes blonde), brown eyes. Caring, sincere, often to the point of self sacrifice.
Interests: Drawing, painting, guitar, old rock n' roll, motorcycles, martial arts, femininity.
"My interests are varied & diverse, & sometimes draw me away from my TV interests. Hard to find time for both 'David' & Danielle."
Danielle, Box 4667, Station C, Calgary, AL T2T 5P1 Canada

LINDA LEE ATHIE (WI) 9/85
Member: GGA
TS oriented, 5'7", 176, 35, blue eyes.
"I would like to write to any TS or TV that would9 like to build a friendship by mail only. I do not desire any personal meetings and am not interested in having anyone looking for fun times or thrills. I would like to build friendships. I will answer all letters."
Linda A. (WI-0529)

JUDY KAYE (MN) 6/85
Married, fantasy crossdresser, 45, 5'11", 240.
Interests: Skiing, photography (experienced).
"I would like to meet others like myself, or active cross-dressers - just talk and friendship."
Judy Kaye, Box 16163, St Paul, MN 55116

Karen Ann N. (ME-0787)

KAREN ANN N. (ME) 8/86
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing
MWM hetero cross-dresser (since adolescence), 5'4", 130, friendly, happy, enjoys people, places, & things.
Interests: Photography, walking, clothes, dining out, shopping, nature.
"I would enjoy corresponding and exchanging photos with other crossdressers. I would also enjoy discreet shopping trips and dining out while dressed."
Karen Ann N (ME-0787)

CAROLE TOWNSEND (SE MA) 9/85
Member: Tiffany
Married hetero TV, 40ish, passable with super effort.
Interests: Painting, drawing, model making, reading science fiction, and, of course, crossdressing.
"I would like to hear from anyone with similar interests."
Carole Townsend, c/o P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

WENDY R. (N CA) 9/85
Member: GGA
Awards: 1st Runner-up "Miss U. Cincinnati"
MWM, bi, 6'1", 160, 37, passes in public. Supportive wife, formerly on stage, past president of U.C. Gay Society.
Interests: Photography (still & video), poetry, sci-fi, jewelry.
Enjoys partying, all kinds of music, going out, & fashion from the exotic to sedate.
Wendy R. (CA-0805)

JERI F. (N NH) 9/85
Single, 5'10", 166, 38, lives conservative rural lifestyle.
Interests: Nylons, high heels, makeup, rubber lingerie, wigs, lipstick & everything feminine.
"Searching for a compassionate female-TV-TS who can understand the delights of feminine clothing, and who is very open and willing to be flexible to make a relationship work."
Jeri F. (NH-0820)

Valerie Vincent (MA-0276)

VALERIE VINCENT (E MA) 9/85
Member: Tiffany
MWM TV, 5'10", 150, 43. Wears fingernails over 1" long, has picture album, makes convincingly attractive woman. Wants to be a professional Female Impersonator.
Loves dressing up, wearing exotic makeup, ultra femme clothes, and having the woman in me captured on film.
"I am now more TV free than ever before, but not as free as I will be next year. I am working toward a goal of having the courage to go into a club and entertain, and also go out in public whenever I wish."
Valerie V. (MA-0276)

JACKIE C. (E MA) 9/85
SWM, 5'8", 175, 36, quiet, easy going.
Interests: Tennis, good movies, aerobics, wrestling, running.
"Looking for a non-smoker who is exercise oriented to dress with."
Jackie C. (MA-0799)

JANICE H. (TX) 5/86
MWM, lifelong CD, 5'9", late 50's.
"I so enjoy doing things feminine! Although I have no friends with whom I can share my fascination in person, I am meeting some lovely ladies through correspondence. I am a bit slow to reply sometimes, but I will answer all. Your photo will be enjoyed. My interests include music (classics to jazz), travel, photography, and of course, being me."
Janice H (TX-0567)

JENNIFER WIXON (MN) 9/85
Member: Tiffany, GGA
Long-time TV, 5'11", large but shrinking.
Interests: Chess, books, travel -- in fact, games, writing, and art in general.
"Still trying to find out what I am, and what my potential may be. Looking to talk, to listen -- to learn."
Jennifer Wixon, Box 19455, Minneapolis, MN 55419

Wendy Jackson (AL-0794)

WENDY JACKSON (AL) 9/85
MWM TV, 5'10", 175, early 40's. Married to an understanding woman who helps with makeup, clothes, and wigs.
Interests: Tennis, woodworking, all things feminine.
"I'm interested in contacting other TVs, and sharing experiences."
Wendy J. (AL-0794)

Renee C. (NY-0664)

RENEE C. (N. NY) 11/85
Member: TV Entertainers, Tiffany Club
Participant: Tiffany's Wives Support Group Outing
Happily married TV, 5'9", 150, passes at times.
Interests: wood working, photography.
"I am interested in helping TVs in the Albany NY area through my organization 'TV Entertainers', and will write back."
R. Chevalier, Box 13844, Albany, NY 12212

REGINA S (NYC NY) 10/85
Member: NYC GGA, TS Voice
Age 39, gender-troubled person. Has TS feelings but very novice at 'dressing'. Is very shy, serious and conservative by nature.
Interests: Classical and old-time pop music, history, literature, philosophy/theology.
"I want to greatly enhance my femininity and become more comfortable with myself and others."
Regina S (NY-0383)

DARLENE S. ROSS (CT) 10/85
MWM, 50s, 5'8", 165, shy.
Interests: Photography, sports, travel, all kinds of music, reading, especially getting completely dressed.
"I'm interested in communicating with other TVs or understanding females to help me to come out of the closet and advise me as to my difficulties in becoming the woman I would like to become."
Ms Darlene S. Ross, Suite 114, 167 Cherry St, Box 3894, Milford, CT 06460

JOAN V. (E. MA) 6/85
Tall bi TV, good looking, loves to dress, and would love to have someone from the Boston MA area to dress with.
Joan V (MA-0152)

LYNN D. (WA) 8/85
Member: Emerald City-GGA
MWM, 5'9", 38. Wife knows but doesn't really accept.
Interests: Scuba diving, sports cars.
"I enjoy a quiet day just being myself - feeling whole!"
Lynn D. (WA-0797)

Suzanne C. (CA-0295)

REBECCA SUZANNE C (MA) 11/85
Member: Tiffany Club
DWM, 50s, 6', long-time cross-dresser
Enjoys golf, cooking, personal computing, and of course, being Suzanne.
"I am totally addicted to the joys of cross-dressing. I have an easy going personality and wish to establish friendship with other girls so we may share the joys and frustrations of our wonderful feminine world. I would like to hear from you.
Suzanne C (MA-0295)

KATHY H. (MI) 10/85
Interests: Sports. Returning to school to become a registered nurse.
"I'm a large woman, 6'4", 200 lbs. Would like to pass, but very insecure. I want to learn from sisters what every girl should know."
Kathy H (MI-0829)

LAURA H. (TX) 9/85
Member: Boulton & Park Cultural Society
MWM lifelong TV, 6', 160, 40, just sneaking out of the closet.
Interests: Skiing, camping, woodworking, hunting.
"I would like to hear from other TVs in the San Antonio area."
Laura H. (TX-0798)

JACKIE O. (MO) 9/85
Member: GGA
Discreet TV, 5'10", 170, 46, brown hair.
Enjoys makeup, & dressing.
"Would like to get out of the closet - one time. Would also like to meet other discreet TVs."
Jackie O (MO-0608)

DIANE O. (NC) 10/85
Member: GGA
"I enjoy Traveling. I dress from 2 to 3 times a month and enjoy meeting others to discuss the joys of cross-dressing. Would like to meet others in my area to go out with. I have a very nice wardrobe and enjoy looking my best for the right person."
Diane, Box 1252, Garner, NC 27529

ANGEL N. (E MA) 9/85
Female-to-male TS, 5'4", 31, working on Masters in psychology. Spontaneous, funloving, athletic.
Interests: Psychology, reading, yoga, beach.
Angel N. (MA-0804)

JONI HOLLAND (VT) 8/85
Married TV, 6'1", 165, 34, long brown hair, loves life, outgoing, but always busy.
Enjoys doing hair, yours or mine, running, canoeing, skiing, always in some way feminine at work or play.
"I'm interested in meeting and writing to TV-TS women in New England. Come on up and have your hair curled."
Joni H (VT-0782)

GLORIA WRIGHT (IL) 10/85
Member: Windy City Chapter GGA, Chi Chapter Tri Ess
Awards: 1st Runner-Up 'Miss Windy City '84
Hetero TV, 33, 5'3", passable, fun-loving.
Interests: Singing as a female, dancing, jogging, karate, reading, photography.
"I love correspondence and meeting other TVs and TSs, and am understanding of all lifestyles."
Gloria Wright, Box 172, Gurnee, IL 60031

JOANN RENEE CONE (CO) 10/85
SWM bi-TS, 32, 5'8", 170. A writer and traveler.
Interests: Anything to do with womanhood and femininity. Reading, movies, dining out, cooking, loves good wine, good conversation, most music.
"I love to live life in my female role. In mind and soul I am 100% TS, and am working on the physical aspect of becoming the real me. I am a very warm and caring person who wants to meet new friends for a sincere friendship. I would love to meet any other TS or TV from the Denver area who enjoy being in public."
JoAnn Cone, Box 13183, Denver, CO 80201

DONNA C. (CT) 8/85
"I'm interested in cross-dressing, and meeting people to make new friends. Please be discreet in contacting me. All letters will be answered right away."
Mr. D. Clarke, P.O. Box 263, Ledyard, CT 06339

MARCIA G (MA) 10/85
MWM hetero TV, 41, dark, 5'7", 170, sensitive.
Interests: Likes dressing, and all things feminine. Enjoys the company of TVs.
"I'm interested in many different areas, and will answer all."
Marcia G (MA-0622)

Dolly B. (NH-0648)

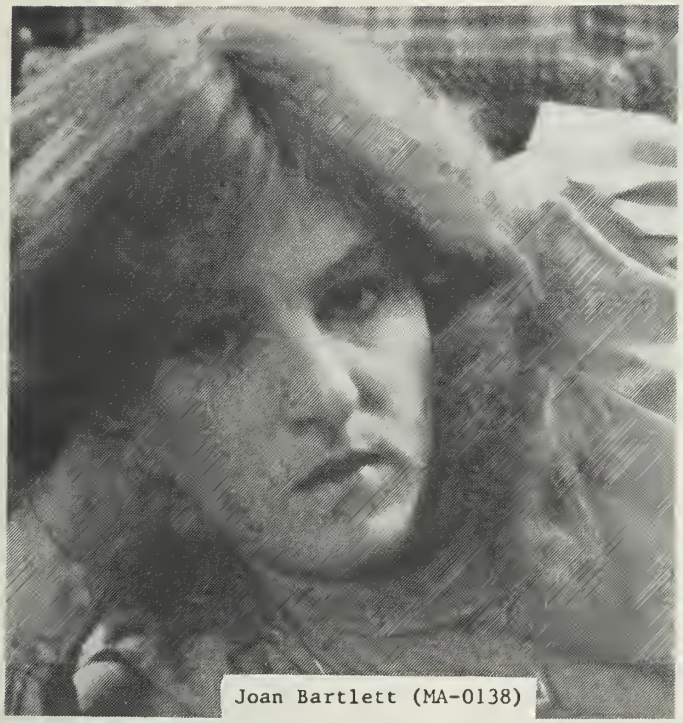
DOLLY BAKER (NH) 12/85
Member: Tiffany
MWM, hetero, 60, 6'2", 195. Friendly, good sense of humor, trustworthy.
Interests: Feminine fashions, nature, art, music (classical, big band, jazz), photography.
"Trying desperately to come out without alienating a disapproving family. Want to develop kindred contacts throughout country for visits during my frequent business travels. Enjoy girl-talk, shopping. Correspondence is invited, welcomed and answered."
Ms Dolly Baker, Box 7425, S. Nashua, NH 03060

Ellen S. (OR-0382)

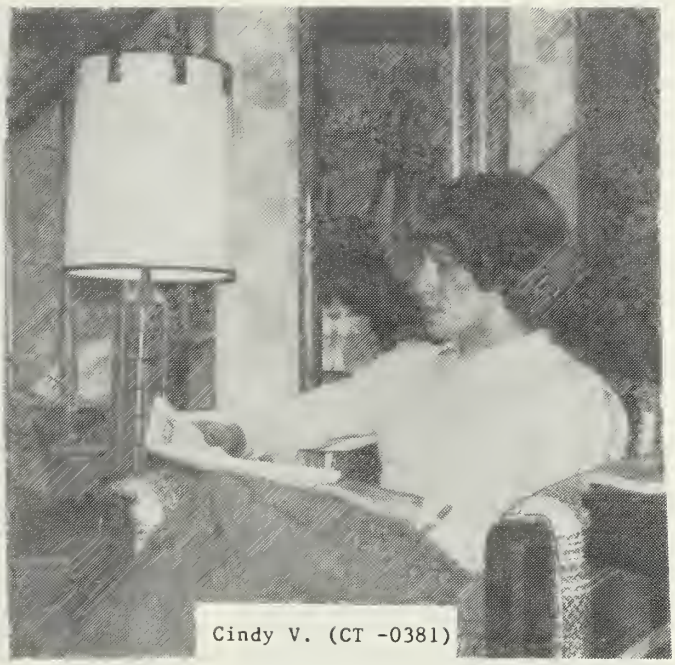
ELLEN S (OR) 10/85
Member: NWGA GGA
Participant: DREAM, GGA Convention-Chicago, Pantaro Dunes
Awards: Grand Dame DREAM '82
Hetero TV, 50s, married with 3 children. All know of Ellen and approve.
Interests: Travel, music (big band era), has large old phonograph collection.
"I would like to correspond with any sisters and promise to answer all letters. Would like to visit any sisters visiting the Portland or NW area."
Ellen S, c/o NWGA, Box 4928, Portland, OR 97208-4928

ROBIN PEARCE (NB) 9/85
Member: Tri Ess
I'm interested in shopping, and expressing my feminine side.
Robin P. (NB-0796)

BARBARA JANE A. (MN) 1/85
Member: GGA
DWM closet cross-dresser (60% TS, 40% TV)
Interests: Boys who would rather be girls.
"I would like to make new friends, especially in the Twin Cities area."
Barbara Jane A (MN-0655)



Joan Bartlett (MA-0138)



Cindy V. (CT -0381)

MS JOAN ELIZABETH B (NE MA) 10/85
MWM TV, 30, 5'8", 150.
Interests: Outdoor activities in all seasons of the year, skiing, scuba diving, photography.
"I would like to meet others that can share in my interests, would like to meet another married couple in my area for friendship."
Joan B (MA-0138)

JENNIFER B (MA) 10/85
Member: Tiffany, Tri Ess
Participant: Lee Brewster's Outing
5'6", 120, medium length black hair, passable.
Interests: cooking, bowling, embroidery, dancing, theatre, going out dressed.
"The body can't be whole unless the feminine is expressed. Let's go out together."
Jennifer B (MA-0479)

LAURA LYONNS (QUE CAN) 10/85
Member; TAMS
"I'm a loving TS, slowly shedding the 'Victor' portion of my Victor/Victoria personality. My interests include media, dance, and female impersonation. This 'Tootsie' would also like to roll with any TVs who can pass as well as Dustin Hoffman's 'Dorothy Michaels'."
Laura Lyonns, c/o TAMS, Box 1164, Station H, Montreal, QUE CAN H3G 2N1

Robin G. (PA-0781)

ROBIN G. (PA) 8/85
MWM, tall, attractive TV, 38, often passable.
Interests: Spectator sports, fashionable dressing, animals, femininity, travel.
"I'm interested in meeting other passable TVs or TSs in the Phila. NYC, or NJ area for mutual fun and companionship. Am caring, careful, discrete, and sincere. Photo, phone appreciated."
Robin G (PA-0781)

JOANNA VON GLAHN (FL) 10/85
"I'm a post-op TS, interested in photography, and helping others. Would like to meet other TSs and TVs."
Joanna Von Glahn, 38 Davis Blvd #4, Tampa, FL 33606

CINDY VIOLETTE (CT) 9/85
Member: GGA, Tri Ess, Crossroads, the Network
WM hetero TV, 29, 5'8", 145. Started electrolysis, soon to be taking hormones.
Interests: Photography, good food, movies, music, walks on deserted beaches, hiking.
"At times I'm not quick to answer a letter because of the number of people I do correspond with, but will answer A.S.A.P., depending on urgency of letter."
Cindy violette, Box 14674, Hartford, CT 06114

ROBIN PEARCE (NB) 9/85
Member: Tri Ess
I'm interested in shopping, and expressing my feminine side.
Robin P. (NB-0796)

SARA ANN HARRIS (W. NY) 11/85
Member: EON
Pre TS, 29, 5'9", 135, brown eyes, brown hair. Slim, feminine, attractive, professional, pleasant young lady. Have worked and lived full time as a woman since mid '84.
Interests: Fashion modeling, travel, shopping, dining out, live entertainment, horse back riding, tennis, skiing, bicycling, and just being with family and friends.
"I would like to meet other TSs, TVs, TGs and ladies who can accept my feminine personality, and willing to share the same pleasant, sensible interests and friendship."
Sara Ann H (NY-0853)

Shirley Kay Knight (CO-0493)

SHIRLEY KAY KNICHT (CO) 11/85
Member: Denver GIC
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, GGA Spring Fling
SWM TV, 43, 5'8", friendly, fun, and feminine.
Interests: Traveling, dancing, sewing, and going out in public dressed.
"I am interested in meeting other TVs, particularly in the Rocky Mountain region."
Shirley K. Knight, Box 1042, Pueblo, CO 81002

JENNIFER A. (SE PA) 1/86
SWM, 36, 6', blue eyes, black hair.
Interests: Sewing, cross-dressing, attaining that special goal of maleness and femaleness.
Jennifer A (PA-0876)

DIANNE K. (S. CA) 11/85
Member: GCA
Interests: Photography, trains & streetcars, writing, making new friends, & dressing up.
"I am 35, 5'9", 140, married, and my wife encourages my crossdressing. I've just made my first attempts at going out and find it quite thrilling. I want to correspond, exchange photos and meet other TVs."
Dianne K. (CA-0846)

DAWN H. (CT) 11/85
Participant: Fantasia Fair
SW M-F TS, 39, 5'10", 145.
Interests: Reading, boating, water skiing, outdoors, shopping.
"I am interested in learning how to become a total woman. Also interested in corresponding with others of like feelings in SE CT and RI."
Dawn H. (CT-0858)

Christina S. (MA-0649)

CHRISTINA S. (E. MA) 12/85
Member: Tiffany
37, 5'11", 175. Married, life-long TV.
"I enjoy dressing and becoming a woman. I'm an accomplished cook, baker, photographer. I'd love to correspond with and possibly meet with other TVs to discuss mutual interests. Want to be out and among friends."
Christy S. (MA-0649)

SARABETH (SALLY) W. (NB) 10/85
Interests: Architecture, classical music, TV/TS fiction and fantasy and Big Red Football, and gymnastics.
"Subscribing to the Tapestry is probably as far out of the closet as I will ever be, but I would enjoy corresponding with other TVs who can help me understand myself."
Sarabeth W. (NB-0833)

TINA LOUISE L. (NJ) 10/85
Member: Phi Chapter
"I want to enjoy being as feminine as I can, and being with others who feel the same."
Tina Louise L. (NJ-0837)

ROYY A. (NJ) 5/85
Member: CCA
Slim, tall, friendly, delicate.
Interested in the outdoors, flowers, old cars, and becoming more feminine.
"I would very much like to meet friends, especially in the tri-state area. Am also seeking pen pals."
Royy A. (NJ-0550)

Kelley M. (NY-0718)

KELLEY M. (W. NY) 5/85
Member: EON
MWM, 5'9", dark hair, blue eyes, pass in public.
Interests: Lingerie, dressy dresses, skiing, biking, antiques, all fashion that is directly related to our Bridal Shop 'The House of Renee'. We love to travel.
"My wife and I would like to meet couples where the wife is accepting. We enjoy giving cocktail parties at our home, or at other social affairs."
Kelley M., c/o EON, Box 6293, Camillus, NY 13031

Lauren O. (MN-0851)

LAUREN OLSEN (N CA) 11/85
Member: Tri Ess
MWM, 42, 5'11" 155, use own hair (no wigs), and married to an understanding wife for 15 years. Some college.
Interests: Fashion, arts, science, writing, the outdoors, music, and science fiction.
"I've been a hair stylist for over 10 years, and will answer questions about hair and make-up. I hope to make some friends with this listing."
Lauren Olsen, 903 Whitehall Lane, Redwood City, CA 94061

CHERYL C. (WA) 7/85
Member: Tri Ess
Hetero TV, 40, 5'5", employed full time as an alcoholism counselor.
"I would like to correspond with all- and will reply to all letters. I am new, just out of the closet, and would like to hear from everyone."
Cheryl C. (WA-0777)

SUSAN T. (S. CA) 10/85
Member: Tri Ess, GGA, Neutral Corner
Interests: Dressing, fashion, lingerie, hiking, skiing, reading, music.
"I want more contacts in San Diego area. Am active in local TV/TS group, the Neutral Corner', and will answer all."
W. Thomas, Box 99732, San Diego, CA 92109

Trenna Marie Mc. (NY-0623)

TRENNA MARIE MC (W. NY) 10/85
Member: Tri Ess, Eon
Married Hetero cross-dresser with supportive wife. 51, 5'8", 185.
"I love dressing and being out in public, but am not able to get out in my area. Will answer all that care to correspond."
Trenna Mc (NY-0623)

RITA HAMILTON (MA) 11/85
Member: Tiffany
MWM hetero TV, 34, 6', 140, attractive, sincere, sensitive and adventurous.
Interests: Science, music, dance, cross-dressing, and having fun in high heels.
"I like going places cross-dressed where fun & interesting things are happening. I'd also like to meet people who are interested in the same."
Rita Hamilton, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

JACKIE MCDONALD (NH) 8/85
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, Tiffany WSG Outing, Dewhurst's Poconos Weekend
MWM cross-dresser, 40ish, 6'1", 180, reasonably attractive.
Interests: Swimming, needlework, woodwork, micro computers. Loves shopping, long walks, & Koffee Klatching. Also, is very interested in helping people.
"I reside in S. NH, & would like to meet individuals with similar interests."
Jackie McDonald, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

AMANDA J. (CT) 10/85
Member: Tiffany, Tri Ess, GGA
MWM hetero TV, 40's, 5'9".
Interests: Music, museums, theatre, old cars, and economics.
"I am a pleasant, passable, prim and proper when dressed. Prefer one-on-one situations rather than large gatherings."
Amanda J. (CT-0290)

Robin B. (FL-0611)

ROBIN B. (FL) 10/85
MWM, 50's, 6'1", 160, lifelong cross-dresser.
Enjoys tennis, golf, sailing, racing sailboats, bridge, cross-dressing.
"I would like to meet similar people in the Orlando, Daytona Beach, Tampa area."
Robin B. (FL-0611)

PAULA RIORDAN (MA) 10/85
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Fantasia Fair
MWM hetero TV, 50s, 5'8", 160, soft spoken, easy going, friendly.
Interests: History, philosophy, religion, cosmetology, fashion, cooking and ballet.
"I am happy being 'Paula', and I enjoy conversation & correspondence with friends I have met through the Tiffany Club and the Tapestry. Although opportunities are limited, I pass fairly well, & enjoy going out with friends."
Paula Riordan, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

Veronica Jean Brown (MA-0632)

VERONICA JEAN BROWN (W. MA) 11/85

Member: Tiffany, GGA, XX Club

Post-op female TS, 40.

Interested in photography and computers. Seeking penpals with other TSs.

"I now have what I've always wanted and there can be no more excuses."

Veronica Brown, Box 80458, Forest Park Stn., Springfield, MA 01138

PAULA KAY (NH) 8/85

33, 6', 170, brown hair, hazel eyes.

Interests: Warm weather fishing, hunting, camping, the ocean, sexy lingerie, and getting out of the closet.

"I am down to earth, easy to get along with, and quiet. I am possibly bi, feminine when dressed, and want to meet other TVs for dressing together. Would also like to meet females and couples."

Paula Kay (NH-0596)

NANCY ANN H. (TX) 1/86

Member: Bolton & Park, Tri Ess, GGA

Lifelong TV, 53, disabled veteran (Korea), retired. Would like to meet other girls. Am divorced and would like to find a GG who could accept me and love me. I am loving, homelike, a good girl, and a nice person. I value honesty and trustworthiness, and most of all loyalty."

Nancy Ann H (TX-0877)

JANET DONALDSON (MD) 1/86

"I have tried, in the past few months, to climb out from the weight of years of solitary, furtive dressing into a more open life of friendship with people like me. I cannot be entirely open; I have not told my daughter yet. I am particularly struggling with the question of whether I want to be a woman or just look like a woman, and I would welcome correspondence with others who have struggled with that question. When not dressing, I haunt use book shops looking for the works of certain British women novelists of the twenties and thirties."

Janet D. (MD-0881)

Siobhan D. (MA-0605)

SIOBHAN DONOVAN (MA) 12/85

Member: Tiffany

Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing, Tiffany WSG Outing

MWM, 35, 6'2", 240, life long cross-dresser. Member Tiffany Board of Directors, Tapestry Staff.

Interests: C.B. radio, computers, graphic arts, sewing, cooking, cross-dressing (of course), and helping others.

Siobhan Donovan, c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

Milesa P. (MI-0976)

MILESA PHAR (MI) 6/86

Member: Crossroads, Paradise

Participant: "Be All" '84 - '86

Hetero TV, married to understanding wife.

Interests: Photography, shopping, good conversation, enjoys the fine are of femininity.

"I am a professional person who has accepted my femme identity and wishes to educate the public with a positive image of TVs & TSs."

Milesa Phar, P.O. Box 196, Garden City, MI 48135

DONNA P. (CT) 1/86

MWM, 43, 5'8", 200

Interests: Sailing, scuba diving, walking, plays, good movies, pops concerts, photography, dining out.

"I'm finally in a position to explore my feelings fully. My partner fully accepts and encourages me. I cannot pass, but I would like to hear from sisters who can help."

Donna P. (CT-0875)

Laura Covington (CA-0480)

LAURA R. COVINGTON (CA) 11/85
Member: GGA, Tri Ess, Shangri-La
MBM, hetero, 36, 5'8", attractive, pleasant, understanding.
"I'm interested in contacting TVs and women. I have many interests, and will answer all."
Laura R. Covington, Box 10431, Oakland, CA 94610

CAROL TAYLOR (W. NY) 1/86
Member: Tiffany, EON
Participant: Tiffany WSG Outing
MWM, 41, 5'9", 160, blond, educated, friendly.
Interests: golf, skiing, boating, writing, but mostly being feminine.
"Married 3 years to an 'AAA' lady who accepts, appreciates, encourages and helps with my fem side. Knowledgeable in underfashions, figure dynamics and natural breast enhancement technique. My wife and I have a sincere interest in helping other TVs and couples progress rapidly through the predictable negative and confusing stages toward full appreciation of the feminine."
Carol Taylor, Box 115, Syracuse, NY 13201

HELEN T. (NH) 11/85
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Tiffany's P-town Outing, Tiffany WSG Outing
MWM TV, 47, 5'11". Tiffany Board of Directors. Hopes to make social contacts within the TV-TS Community.
Helen T., c/o Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

Geri Lynn (MI-0668)

GERI LYNN (MI) 1/86
Member: Crossroads
Bi-, MWM, sincere, discrete and honest.
Interests: Golf, military stories, music.
"I enjoy correspondence, all things feminine, photo sessions. Guarantee response to all. Want to meet new friends in Detroit area."
Geri L (MI-0668)

SHARON MC. (SE MA) 12/85
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Fantasia Fair
WM TV, 30, 5'6", 140. Enjoys everything feminine.
"I'm shy but trying to be more open, especially with my cross-dressing. I'm a non-drinker. I'm looking for the help and support of the TV/TS Community to better understand myself, and would like to meet other TVs & TSs and women for shopping, travel, photos and fun."
Sharon Mc. (MA-0504)

RENEE SLOCUM (W. NY) 12/85
SWM, 28, 5'11", 160, hetero cross-dresser, college educated, shy but friendly, good sense of humor.
Interests: Ballet, tennis, collecting antiques & anything old, elegant private parties, dressing up & being feminine.
"Been cross-dressing since 1970, am financially limited and have a modest but nice wardrobe."
Renee S. (NY-0651)

KAREN ANDERSON (MN) 1/86
40, male, 6", sense of humor, but can be serious, happily married for 19 years, 2 lovely daughters.
Interests: Clothes, sewing, history, research, racing, music, almost everything, very open to most interests.
"Would like to correspond with other couples with TV husband. Possible meeting after a time when we both are comfortable with each other."
Karen Anderson, Box 18052, W. St Paul, MN 55118

Terri Scott (MI-0476)

TERRI SCOTT (MI) 10/85
Member: Crossroads
Tall, attractive, fun loving lady.
Interests: Fashion,corresponding with others of similar interests, shopping, writing articles and thoughts about being a feminine person.
Terri Scott, Box 728, Birmingham, MI 48012

Sherrie L. (MA-0503)

SHERRY LORRAINE (MA) 10/86
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing and WSG Outing, Lee Brewster's P-town Outing.
MWM, 39, lifelong cross-dresser, red hair, blue eyes, 5'7", easy going, passes well.
Interests: Skiing, computers, quiet walks along the ocean as Sherry, C&W music, and dancing.
"I enjoy passing in public, making new friends, traveling, and especially girl-to-girl conversations. Seeking friends with similar interests."
Sherry Lorraine (0503), c/o P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

TERRI DOWNS (NV) 11/85
Member: GGA, Tri Ess, Shangri-La
Participant: Shangri-La, DREAM
Auburn hair, grey eyes, 5'11",size 16/18.
Interests: Flying, ham radio, country & string music. Is a book collector, a history buff, and into solar energy.
"I love to dress, attend dress-up parties, and meet other TV/TS girls. Will escort around Vegas, and will answer all. Picture is appreciated, but not necessary."
Terri Downs, Box 4116, N. Las Vegas, NV 89030-0116

JOSEPHINE LALANNE (SPAIN) 12/85
Member: Beaumont Society, A. Beaumont C., Tri Ess, Tiffany
Hetero TV, 5'7", 155, 50, blue eyes, brown hair, married.
Interests: Music, literature, theater, cooking, house keeping, photography and expressing feminine side.
"Seeking other TVs and understanding female friends for talk, meet, dress with. Also to correspond and exchange photos and share experiences. Promise to reply to everybody."
Josephine L (Spain-0880) (include extra postage for overseas mail)

MARCIA JOHNSON (MA) 1/86
Attractive TV, 5'9", 140, 38
Interests: Jogging (finished Boston Marathon), golf, tennis, avid sports fan.
"I like to go shopping, party at clubs, and dine at fine restaurants. I'm friendly and outgoing. I would like to meet TVs, TSs who would enjoy dining out, dancing at clubs, and shopping at malls."
Marcia J (MA-0666)

SYLVIA C. (MA) 9/85
Member: Tri Ess
MWM, 6'2", grey hair, blue eyes, passable at times. Very serious about cross-dressing. Interested in meeting other TVs as schedule permits.
"I enjoy being a well-dressed lady, lingerie, nylons, high heels, etc. Would enjoy contacts in the Brockton MA area."
Sylvia C. (MA-0189)

JACQUELINE ANNE ALLEN (TX) 12/85
Member: Bolton & Parks, GGA
5'9", 155, 51.
Interests: Cars, kids, TV (both meanings), sports, Louis L'Amour.
"I am the world's worst correspondent, but do like to hear from you, if you don't mind an almost one way conversation."
Jacqueline Allen, Box 6948, San Antonio, TX 78209

EILEEN CLAFLIN (OH) 11/85
MWM, hetero TV, 6', 35, passable on occasion. Loves kids, kittens, and being Eileen. Enjoys meetings and correspondence, music, photography & shopping.
"Would like to make contact with other sisters to share experiences, viewpoints and understanding."
Eileen C. (OH-0486)

Cheryl Ann Costa (VA-0669)

CHERYL ANN COSTA (VA) 1/86
Member: Tiffany, Butterfly, Eon
Participant: Joyce Dewhurst Poconos Outing, Tiffany WSG Outing
Awards: 'Miss Poconos '85'
MWM TV, 34, lots of fun at a party.
Interests: Photography, public speaking, computers, Dungeons & Dragons, trivial pursuit.
"I especially like to meet persons who are into transgender activism, public speaking, club organizing, etc."
Cheryl Ann Costa, P.O. Box 3234, Manassas, VA 22110

SARAH B. (ME) 12/85
WM TV, 5'7", 135, 30
Interests: Skiing, hiking, feminine clothing, actually a little bit of everything.
"I'm just coming out and would love to hear from others, of their experiences, and of the finding their fem self."
Sarah B. (ME-0862)

STELLA MARTIN (NJ) 1/86
Interested in fashions, music, designing, & bringing high quality clothing to TVs & TSs.
"I would love to be involved in all your functions. I've been dressing for 17 years and I've just come out."
Stella Martin c/o Madeline Miles, P.O. Box 701, Marlton, NJ 08053

Kathy E. (CT-0946)

CATHY ERIN (CT) 3/86
"I've been crossdressing for over 30 years. I live full time as a female. I love people, good times, and music."
C. Erin, P.O. Box 231, East Haddam, CT 06423

Laura R. (MA-0874)

LAURA R. (W. MA) 12/85
SWM TV, 30's, 5'12", 145
Open minded, travel frequently, diverse interests including golf, tennis, billiards, Cape Cod weekends, theatre. Voracious reader. competent attractive guy and svelte, sensuous lady all in one. enjoys dating as girl or guy.
Laura R. (MA-0874)

CAROL ANN DURETTE (NH) 3/86
Bi WM TG, blue eyes, brown hair, 5'9", 180, lives full time as a woman.
Interests: Reading, writing, folk & soft rock music, romantic interludes.
"I need help finding hormones to further my feminization process. Also looking for someone with whom I can spend my life (M, F, TV, TS, TG)."
Carol Ann Durette, P.O. Box 686, Meredith, NH 03253

Lee A. (ME-0247)

LEE A. (ME) 6/86
MWM closet TV, 55, 5'10", brown hair, good personality.
Enjoys dressing and becoming a woman, corresponding and/or meeting others who enjoy dressing in attractive clothes and high heels. Also enjoys jogging, fishing, hunting, bridge and pinochle.
"I will be spending a lot of time in Florida and am hoping for social contacts there and along the way. All mail will be answered."
Lee A. (ME-0247)

SUSAN T. (S. CA) 10/85
Member: Neutral Corner, Tri-Ess, GGA
Interests: Dressing, Fashion, lingerie, hiking, skiing, reading, music.
"Want more contacts in San Diego area. Am active in local TV/TS group 'the Neutral Corner', and will answer all."
W. Thomas, Box 99732, San Diego, CA 92109

Andi K. (CA-0656)

ANDI K. (N. CA) 6/86
Member: Tri Ess, ETVC
Awards: Miss ETVC '84
Hetero, 36, 5'7"
"I am interested in meeting other TVs in the San Francisco Bay area for outings and mutual assistance. I will attempt to answer all correspondence."
Andi K. (CA-0656)

BARBARA JANE A. (MN) 1/86
Middle-aged, closeted crossdresser. Psychologically 60%TS, 40% TV.
"Am interested in pre-op and post-op TSs, and other boys who would rather be girls. Will answer all letters. Phone calls welcomed."
Barbara A. (MN-0655) 612-870-8234

CLARA ANN B. (Hawaii) 4/86
Member: Tri Ess, Shangri La
Interests: Photography, orchid growing, golfing, swimming, service organizations.
"I've been interested in the femme since early teens. Have been dressing over 40 years, and love it more now than ever. Will write to sincere TVs."
Clara B. (HI-0955)

Eve B. (IL-0523)

Carol Jennings (MA-0541)

EVE B. (IL) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess
Participant: DREAM, 'Be All', Fantasia Fair
Awards: 'Miss Dream', 'Miss Fantasia Fair', 'Miss Best Dressed', 'Miss Congeniality'.
Elegant, passable, self-assured. Eve golfs, plays tennis.
Interested in involvement in education of society - TV appearances, lectures at colleges, for the press, etc. Also, supports unifying efforts to attain greater acceptance. Lives 50% as Eve.
Eve B. (IL-0523)

LARAINNE JOCELYN (OH) 6/86
MWM TV, 52, 5'2", 210
Member: Paradise
Interests: Travel, shopping femininity, music, corresponding, parties.
"I love being a woman. Emotionally and mentally I am a woman and feel complete when I am dressed. I would like to correspond and meet other women like myself to enjoy our interests and company."
LaRainne Jocelyn, c/o Linda Carson, Box 86 W.B. Br., Dayton, OH 45409

JONNIE P. (W. NY) 12/85
Member: Chi Delta Mu
Enjoys old-time fiddle music, puppetteering, gardening, hunting, kids. Would like to correspond & meet other TVs in my area with aim of going out in public and attending functions.
Jonnie P. (NY-0873)

MARLENE L. (S. CA) 6/86
Member: Alpha Chapter
Interested in motorcycles, tennis and 10K races.
"I'm 53, and have an understanding girlfriend. When I am home I dress en femme, but I am not home too often. Have been out in public in both San Francisco and Los Angeles, and seem to pass there reasonably well. I seldom miss an ALPHA Chapter meeting."
Marlene L. (CA-1036)

JENNIFER B. (SE FL) 6/86
Single, never married, 5'7", 123. Young, passable, a hard working R.N. with graduate degree and professional management experience.
"It's the gender that counts - be the person you want to be. '86 goal: to obtain a professional position as a female in the West Palm Beach area. Do you own a business and need an intelligent, attractive, hard working manager to help you be even more successful? Contact me."
Jennifer B. (FL-0953)

LISA A. (N. CA) 4/86
SWM, 31, 6', 130
Interests: Post-industrial music, computers, alternate realities and a host of other things.
"I never suspected that coming out the closet would feel so good! I'd enjoy hearing from sub-geniuses, discordians and others of a similar bent."
Lisa A. (CA-0939)

CAROL JENNINGS (E. MA) 4/86
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Outing
SWM TV, 33, 6', 150, attractive, rock musician/song writer, very outgoing.
enjoys nights on the town, high fashion, especially shoes, good music and a good party.
"Come on out - and let's party!"
Carol J. (MA-0541)

SAMANTHA D. (VA) 12/85
5'7", 115, 36-24-34, 41, dark hair brown eyes, shy, good dresser, artistic, professional, & enjoy the best in life.
Interests: Art, fishing, good food, good wine, close friends, stylish clothes & leather hi style dresses.
"I enjoy quiet evening with close friends, dancing, & making home videos. Have lake house for entertaining my friends."
Samantha D. (VA-0867)

PAULA A. (NJ) 6/86
Member: Tiffany
MWM TV 50's, 5'9", 175, medium build.
Interests: Carpentry, photography and reading.
"Have attended several private sessions for makeup and wardrobe instruction. Barely passable but enjoy stepping out on occasion as a conservative but smartly dressed woman. Would love M or F company to dine out. Wife knows but does not encourage. Would enjoy corresponding with others."
Paula A. (NJ-0534)

Cindy M. (AZ-0767)

CINDY ANN MACKENZIE (AZ) 5/86
SWM TV, 6', 148, 34, size 12
Interests right now are finding persons for support and to share the fun of cross-dressing. I would like to be more active with things like dinner, dancing or shopping. Someday I hope to find a woman that will share with me feelings. She will get the best of all worlds.
Cindy M. (AZ-0767)

SHIELA H. (W. PA) 6/86
Retired TV. Need help to expand life as TV.
Interests: Sailing, modeling (ship), needlepoint. Wishes to correspond with girls who like high heels, make-up, photos.
Shiela H. (PA-0743)

DIANE C. (W. NY) 4/86
Member: Butterfly
SWM, 43, 5'10", 180, brown eyes, caring.
Interests: Outdoors, fishing, hiking, and of course dressing up.
"I just came out recently. I'm interested in corresponding with and meeting other TVs, TSs, and women with whom I can be my feminine self."
Diane C. (NY-0895)

MELODY LEIGH SUMMERS (W. MA) 5/86
TV, 5'5", 124, young adult, very attractive, passes easily, talented, intelligent. Enjoys being feminine as often as possible.
Enjoys music, seeks sincere, honest, understanding friendship with TV, TS, or genetic females.
Melody Leigh Summers, P.O. Box 179, Westminster, MA 01473

SHARON LYNN G. (RI) 6/86
DWM hetero TV, 39, 5'4", shy, conservative, sensitive.
Interests: Crossdressing, hiking, reading (esp sci-fi), computers.
"I've been a life-long TV, but have just discovered our community. I'd like to meet other members and friends of our world, to be myself without being alone."
Sharon G. (RI-0947)

PAULA KAY (NH) 12/85
33, 6', 170, brown hair, hazel eyes.
Interests: Warm weather fishing, hinting, camping, the ocean, sexy lingerie, and getting out of the closet.
"I am down to earth, easy to get along with, and quiet. I am feminine when dressed, and want to meet other TVs for dressing together. Would also like to meet females and couples."
Paula K. (NH-0596)

BARBARA C. (CT) 3/86
TV, 44. Wishes to meet others who like to dress and wish to further their experiences with another friend. Am totally open minded and willing to try anything within reason at least once. Travel New England, New York, and New Jersey. Want to further my way out of the closet. Would also love to meet with a couple.
Barbara C. (CT-0404)

BRENDA L. HICKEY (PA) 5/86
M-F TS, pre-op, 34, 5'10", 160, auburn hair, blue eyes, handicapped. Has dressed and lived as a woman for 3 years.
Interests: Reading (sci-fi, westerns, TV fiction), computers, chess, archery, pocket billiards, helping others.
"I'm looking for a lasting friendship. I am extremely introverted and need to learn to loosen up, express my feelings openly, and be more outgoing."
Miss Brenda L. Hickey, Hoy Towers, Apt 306, 301 Mohn St., Steelton, PA 17113-2092

ROXANNE (RUSTY) GRANT (E MA) 4/86
SWM, 5'8", 33, slim, likes dressing but doesn't pass well. Quiet, private, discrete, intelligent, honest.
Interests: Music, dance, good fun and good friends. Enjoys sexy clothing & nylons. Enjoys sports, reading.
"I would like to meet other TVs or TSs for friendship. Not interested in short term friends. Would like help with make-up and someone to have discrete talks with."
R. Grant, P.O. Box 161, Harwich, MA 02645

Kay Gould (CA-0323)

KAY GOULD (CA) 3/86
Very feminine and totally passable. Enjoys all aspects of feminine life style. Strong personality with ultra femme tastes.
Interests: Fine music, dining, theatre, and high fashion.
"I date extensively, and travel heavily throughout the US. I appreciate male escorts in most cities. Am very accomplished in all feminine ways but demanding in personality. I also write for several national publications."
Kay Gould, Box 255, Sacramento, CA 95802

Barbara B. (NY-0258)

BARBARA B. (LI NY) 5/86
Member: NYC Chapter
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Convention, Poconos Outing
MWM, 46, 5'10", 155, wife does not approve. Helpful, honest, discreet, values same in others.
Interests: All kinds of music, dancing, fashion, friends.
"Although a lifelong cross-dresser, circumstances have recently forced me 'back into the closet', However, I will always remember and continue to support my sisters and friends."
Barbara B. (NY-0258)

WENDY H. (PA) 5/86
SWM hetero TV, 28, 6', 165
Interests: Music, photography, and all things relative to cross-dressing. Wishes to correspond with passable TVs regarding all aspect of femininity. Especially interested in hearing from sympathetic females interested in helping me become more womanly. Photo appreciated.
Wendy H. (PA-0958)

HAZEL FORGNONE (W. NY) 4/86
64 years young - nice Victorian small waisted Gibson Girl figure, young looking, spry, graceful.
Interests: Fashion design historian - especially Victorian.
"I dress feminine under my street clothes, including corsets, at all times. I dress every night at home. Visitors welcome, but please call."
Miss Hazel Forgnone, Box 681, Batavia, NY 14020 716-343-1191 after 6:00 p.m.

JACKIE DEE (CT) 4/86
Mature white TV, 5'11", 170, college educated, discrete, sensitive, gentle, caring.
Loves the beautiful, femme world that being a TV encompanies, scented bubble baths, silky feminine undies & lingerie. Do Write. Will answer.
Jackie D. (CT-0929)

SANDRA SCOTT (MA) 5/86
Participant: Tiffany' Spring Convention
SWM, 39, 5'10", slim, brown eyes, brown hair.
Interests: Skiing, the sea shore, flea markets, stain glass cutting, dancing, & dining out.
Sandra S. (MA-0544)

LUCIENNE (LUCY). D. (TN) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess
Participant: Tri Ess Holiday En Femme
Enjoys birdwatching, reading, travel, classical music. "I am 54, a freelance professional artist. The love of all things feminine has been a constant all my life, but my TVism fully surfaced only 5 years ago with the support of a loving wife. I now dress often, and pass in public. I'm eager to know and correspond with others."
Lucienne D. (TN-1000)

CHRISTINE K. (NH) 5/86
MWM, 31, 6', 170, blonde hair, blue eyes.
Interests: Makeup, sexy clothes, wigs, outside activities, karate, & computers.
"Would like to find pen pals and TV friends all over the world. Possibly meet or just swap photos and letters. Not into anything phony, just want good honest friends."
Christine K. (NH-0928)

CAROL SUSAN STEARNS (FL) 5/86
MWM, 60+, slight, passes very well.
Interests: Writing, golf (ladies' tees), clothes, people watching, self-improvement, helping others enjoy their right to dress, do, and be as they please.
"I dress almost all the time and feel "crossdressed" only when I must wear male garments for society's sake. My wife is semi-tolerant, but getting better. Would enjoy hearing from others, especially from central Florida. Will answer all."
Carol Susan Stearns, P.O. Box 803, Lake Mary, FL 32746-0803

Karen K. (CA-0322)

KAREN K. (CA) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess
SWM hetero TV, 43, 5'9", 182. Pleasant personality who enjoys meeting people. Interested in photography, camping, & hiking, running, all sports, good instrumental music, reading, & stamp collecting.
"I enjoy writing and meeting with sisters. I also travel a great deal. I also enjoy going out dressed, but I'm careful."
Karen K. (CA-0322)

PAMELA ANN JOHNSON (MN) 5/86
37, 6', 195, brown hair, blue eyes (and always on a diet)
Interested in transsexualism, and achieving the end result.
Pamela Ann Johnson, P.O. Box 19532, St. Paul, MN 55119

BOBBIE J. (RI) 5/86
WM, hetero, 50's, 5'9", quiet and private with good sense of humor.
Enjoys sexy feminine clothing and lingerie including high heels and makeup. Would like to meet those with similar interests and compare photos and clothing.
Bobbie J. (RI-0927)

Connie N. (NY-0434)

CONNIE N. (W. NY) 6/86
MWM elderly hetero TV, 5'5", 125, with most supportive wife.
Likes clean cut clothes and pretty heels. Loves to correspond. All letters promptly answered.
Connie N. (NY-0434)

JENNIFER F. (NM) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess
6'2", 210, married, occasionally passable.
"I enjoy all people, rock 'n roll, cooking and quiet times. Femininity is a passion. Love silk hose, heels and old movies. I'm interested in going out with other cross-dressers. Will travel. Will answer all."
Jennifer F., P.O. Box 37497, Albuquerque, NM 87176

SUSAN BURTON (AZ) 5/86
MWM, hetero TV, 36.
Interests: Literature, classical music, art & photography. "My greatest 'loves' are travel, visiting old friends, and making new ones. I'm attempting to liberate my feminine self, and would greatly enjoy meeting or corresponding with potential new friends in the TV/TS Community anywhere in the U.S. or Canada."
Susan Burton, P.O. Box 226, 3116 E. Shea Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85028

PAULA S. (CT) 5/86
WM TV, 6', 170
"I am interested in boating, skiing, shopping, girl talk, and meeting other people like myself."
Paula S. (CT-0920)

Candi R. (0908)

CANDI LEIGH RYAN (N. CA) 6/86
MWM, 32, 5'10", 165, pleasant and pretty.
Interests: Music, reading, all sports, shopping, and very frequent dressing. Enjoys a growing femininity, beautiful clothes, and high heels. Likes to correspond (prompt). Looks forward to increased outings and joining social groups. Wife knows and supports.
Candi R. (CA-0908)

SUSAN A. (SE MA) 5/86
MWM TV, 30's, 5'7", 140.
Interests: Collecting and wearing all kinds of lingerie, TV literature.. Would like to meet others with similar interests. "I've been kind of away from the TV scene for a while, but am hoping to get active again soon.:
Susan A. (MA-0064)

CINDY H. (E. PA) 5/86
GW TV/TS, 5'9", 170, 35. Enjoys being a girl and going out with older masculine W males.
Interests: Make-up, hairstyling, fashion & beauty. Music, movies, TV, VCR, & pets.
"I've become very isolated in 'closet' where I live as a woman. My search for a lasting meaningful relationship has been discouraging."
Cindy H. (PA-0952)

JEAN S. (NH) 4/86
WM, 41, 5'8", 163, blue eyes.
Interests: Biking, running, cross-country skiing, shopping for female clothes, listening to music.
"I have been a cross-dresser since 15. I am looking to make new friends like myself. I need the support. I am also looking forward to going out dressed."
Jean S. (NH-0930)

Micheline Johnson (CAN-0560)

MICHELINE JOHNSON (ON, CAN) 5/86
Member: Tiffany, FACT/Ottawa
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Tiffany's P-town Outing, Dewhurst's Poconos Outing
A gentle person, attractive, open, honest, sensitive, 40's, interesting company, non-smoker.
Enjoys life, dancing, dining, films, theatre, music, travel, conversation, walks, wild-life, water falls, sunsets, hand holding, hugging, togetherness.
"I'm looking for a romantic affectional asexual loving warm relationship, as a woman, with one special understanding cultured person having similar characteristics with whom to share some of life together."
Micheline Johnson, Box 9155, Ottawa, Canada K1G 3T9

Jane Nance (KS-0694)

JANE NANCE (KS) 7/86
Member: Tri-Ess, Outreach, TS Voice
Married, mid-50's, 5'7", 135, supportive wife, masters degree.
Interests: Spending time in public as a female, especially with spouse. Also, symphonic music, theatre, movies, & dinners.
I'm transsexual, but committed to my heterosexual marital relationship. Tend to be a fairly private person, with minimal personal meetings with other cross-dressers. As time permits, willing to share my struggles, growth & experiences with others. Dedicated to educating others about cross-dressing & was on Ariadne Kane's program at U. of Iowa."
Ms Jane Nance, P.O. Box 67088, Topeka, KS 66667-0088

MICHELLE STEVENS (CT) 5/86
Tall, hazel eyes, dark red curly hair, good figure, outgoing, fun loving.
Interested in dressing & being with people who enjoy the same.
Michelle S. (CT-0942)

SANDY S. (WA) 6/86
Member: Emerald City
Loves nylons, heels, cloths, and the total look. Wishes to meet others, exchange pictures, get out for an evening or weekend.
Sandy S. (WA-1022)

GLORIA H. (WA) 6/86
SWM TS oriented, 33, 6'2", 235, brown hair & eyes, shy.
"Have had this feminine feeling as long as I can remember. Don't go out much, an need the support of other TSs and understanding females, especially in the northwest or N. CA areas, who can help me get out of the closet I've locked myself in. I will answer all letters as time permits."
Gloria H. (WA-1010)

Linda Jensen (CAN-0442)

LINDA JENSEN (ON, CAN) 5/85
Member: Gateway Gender Alliance, Transvestites Au Montreal, Beaumont Society
Hetero MWM TV, mid 30's.
Enjoys sports, cross-dressing, and dancing.
"My job and family responsibilities give me few chances to dress, so when I do, I do it with vigor. I can travel several times a year, and have been in drag in some of the world's great cities (including Boston)."
Linda Jensen, Box 15855 Sta. F, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1C-3S7

CHERYL H. (E. MA) 12/85
TV, 30, 5'6", 140, blue eyes, passes easily.
Enjoys skiing (downhill and XC), photography, cooking, shopping, and listening to jazz and, especially, doing all these things while dressed.
"I'd like to meet other TVs, particularly in the MA-NY region, and exchange letters with people from all over."
Cheryl H. (MA-0868)

ALLISON DENDY (W. NY) 5/86
Member: EON, Butterfly
Participant: Butterfly W/E
Attractive passable TS, 32, intelligent, good listener & fun to be with. Enjoys cooking, sewing, woodworking, people. Interested in correspondence and visiting with all TSs, especially in the Central NY area.
Allison D. (NY-0998)

Mary Lou H. (CAN-0440)

MARY LOU H. (W. CANADA) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess, ETVC, Shangri-La
Participant: Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E, Tri Ess Holiday, Shangri La, 'Be All'
SWM hetero TV, retired, 5'8", size 12, musician, loves concerts, drama, nature, museums, traveling. Stylish dresser with fine wardrobe. Will meet hetero TVs and understanding girls/ladies. I love correspondence and exchange of pictures. Will answer all.
Mary Lou H. (CAN-0440)

JONI G. (SE NH) 5/86
MWM TV, 42, 5'11", 160, good looking as male. Enjoys swimming, boating, reading. Has excellent outlook on life, good personality.
Joni G. (NH- 0991)

Holly Cross (MA-0379)

HOLLY CROSS (MA) 7/85
Tiffany Keyholder member
Participant Tiffany's P-town Weekend, Lee Brewster's P-town Weekend
SWM TV, 60, size 22 tall. Is a radio ham, and classical music buff. Enjoys cooking (not well), sewing, snorkeling, walking the dog, and chasing clothing markdowns. "I'm looking for friends to meet when I'm in Orange County CA. I'd also be glad to talk by phone."
Holly Cross, c/o Box 19, Wayland MA 01778

JULIE COOK (E. MA) 5/86
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Convention
SWM, 38,5'9", 150, brown hair & eyes.
Interests: Camping, movies, rock music, and improving my feminine image. "I would like to meet others with mutual feminine interests."
Julie Cook, P.O. Box 801, Marlboro, MA 01752 1-617-485-5463

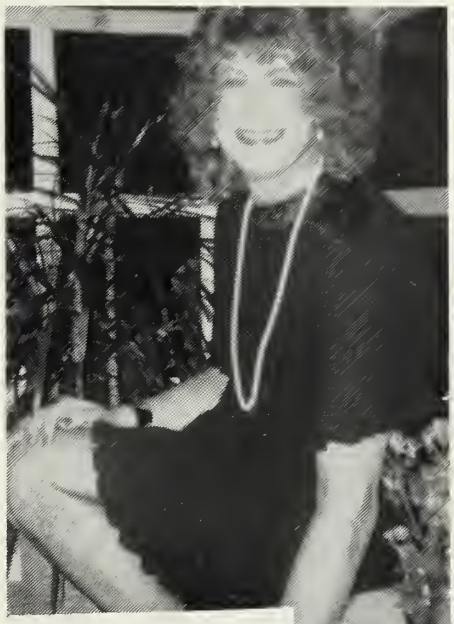
ELIZABETH JEAN B. (IN) 6/86
Member: Cross-Port
Interests: Photography, making new friends, travel, fashion. "I enjoy being Elizabeth, and hope to make new friends. Would like to meet other TV/TS's in my area. Will answer all correspondence."
Elizabeth B. (IN-1032)

ELIZABETH N. JOHNSON (S. CA) 6/86
Pre-op M-F TS, 28, 6', friendly but shy. Television Engineer. Passable with voice, mannerisms & body frame, but in need of makeup & hair styling tips.
Interests: Fanatic in fashion sales, indoor plants, sing opera (use my own soprano female voice), computers, bicycles.
"Would like to start a friendship with TSs, TVs, and others who are warm, friendly and sincere. Write, call, send video tape (any format), or audio cassette."
Elizabeth J. (CA-1030)

SALLY ANN H. (E. MA) 5/86
Long time crossdresser, 32, 5'10", 160, recently out of closet.
Interests: Writing, photography, sports cars, femininity, and cross-gender politics/philosophy.
"I am interested in meeting and corresponding with anyone interested in cross-gender politics and social acceptance. I am newly out of the closet and need help in passing. Will answer all letters and would like to meet those with similar interests and those who can help me learn."
Sally Ann H. (MA-0999)

Linda C. (0703)

LINDA C. (VA) 4/86
Member: Tri Ess
MWM hetero TV, 49, 5'8", 160
Interests: Am interested in cooking, photography, music, gardening. Will correspond with other TVs.
Linda C. (VA-0703)


Shiela Kirk (PA-0336)

SHIELA KIRK (W. PA) 6/86
Member: Tiffany, TransPitt, Paradise
Attractive TV, dedicated to this wonderful joy of dressing. "I work very hard so moments of relaxation and pleasure of this sort are precious to me. I love being a TV, and I'm anxious to meet many others who delight in the same feelings."
Shiela K. (PA-0336)

JOAN MARIE GREY (S. CA) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess, Shangri-La, Outreach Institute
Life long crossdresser, 51, 5'10", 185, widowed, President Alpha Chapter.
Interests: Dining out, theater, reading, model railroading, corresponding, visiting.
Joan G. (CA-0532)

MS SUSAN C. HUXFORD (CAN) 5/86
Member: FACT, SHAFT
Elderly (?) lady, TS (post-op), counselling educator in gender dysphoria syndrome, lecturer, writer and workshop facilitator. Director, GenderServe and Executive Director FACT. Tapestry Board of Advisors, member of professional bodies in U.S.A. and Canada.
"I am frequently called upon for advice by persons of cross-gender inclination in both Canada and the U.S. and have professional contacts on both sides of the border."
Ms Susan C. Huxford, GenderServe, P.O. Box 291, Station 'A', Hamilton, ON CAN L8N 3C8

Naomi O. (IL-0257)

NAOMI O. (IL) 5/86

Member: Chi Chapter (President) Crossroads, Paradise, Outreach

Participant: Fantasia Fair, "Be All"

Awards: Miss Fantasia Fair, Miss Congeniality

A Chicago area attorney who loves the better things in life. Is personable and understanding. Enjoys travel, photography, food (still can't stand beets or brussels sprouts), and fashion & jewelry (it's the gypsy in my soul). Active in mid-west cross-dressing activities, and has appeared on radio and television in Chicago, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Boston, Philadelphia and Minneapolis.

Naomi O., P.O. Box 342, Chicago, IL 60690

MONICA MARTIN (WI) 5/86

MWM, 50, 5'10", 165, professional person.

Interests: Travel, hiking, camping, dressing as a woman, meeting and /or corresponding with other TVs or TSs, or females. I have been dressing since I was 12, and I'm very happy with my femme life. My first and main love is lingerie, hose, and high heels. All letters will be answered. (If possible, please enclose pictures.)"

Monica Martin, Box 92023, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Pam Van Buren (NY-0253)

LAYLA ROXANNE JOY (KS) 6/86

Member: Tri Ess

Enjoys sports, radio control models, motorcycles, cooking, makeup, wig styling. "I like to dress when I can, and I hope to meet more people who share my love of the feminine."

Layla Roxanne Joy, P.O. Box 8438, Wichita, KS 67208

MICHELLE LANGE (E. MA) 6/86

MWM 40, 6', brown hair and hazel eyes.

Interests: Current events, sports, chess, household duties and everything feminine. Intelligent, professional, imaginative and daring person seeking a friendship with nice, caring, sincere person.

"I am an avid collector of TV, domination and discipline stories, and would like to share them with a similar type person."

Boxholder, P.O. Box 1065, Burlington, MA 01803

PAM VAN BUREN (N. NY) 5/86

Participant: Fantasia Fair '80 - '85

Awards: Miss Femininity '84, Miss Provincetown '85

TV, 33, 5'8", 130, quiet, caring, and good humored. Passes well and enjoys shopping, dining out, and traveling. Enjoys skiing, sailing, making clothes, playing music, and being a woman as much as possible.

Pam is interested in meeting and corresponding with people throughout the country, especially in the Eastern NY Western New England area.

Pam V. (NY-0253)

CATHY R. (FL) 6/86

DWM, 50, 6', 160, college, shy cross-dresser with XXY genes. Enjoys music, big bands, gardening, quiet lifestyle, cross-dressing, meeting other TVs & TSs.

Cathy R. (FL-1028)

Denise M. (CT-1014)

DENISE MASON (CT) 5/86
Married TV, very feminine with interest in exotic hairdos & makeup. Very receptive wife allows TV, couple friendships. Will write and exchange photos. Can help others 'come out'. Active in CT and is forming a group in the SE CT area.
Denise Mason, P.O. Box 2281, Devon, CT 06460

JOANNA PAULINE (W. NY) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess
Cross-dresser since early teens, 5'10", 160, 38, size 14, married, 2 children, engineer, Catholic. Wife does not know about cross-dressing, and has responded negatively at any hint.
Interests: Photography, cinema, video and gardening.
"I think I could pass, but have never had a second unbiased opinion. I'm over the guilt phase, and want to correspond with and perhaps meet others in the Rochester area."
Joanna P. (NY-0973)

ANDREA G. (CT) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess
MWM hetero TV, 47, 5'11", 160
Interests: TV fiction, golf, racquet ball, reading, good restaurants. "I'd like to get to know my sisters & myself better. I enjoy one on one get-togethers rather than large gatherings."
Andrea G. (CT-0425)

MARIE ANTOINETTE DeDAMPIERRE (CANADA) 7/86
Member: Tiffany
Striking 6', size 11/12, mid-30's. Cannot pass a Bloomingdale's without indulging is serious credit card abuse. Dual citizen (U.S., U.K.), travels extensively. Keen on achieving closer rapport between sister groups in Canada, U.K., and Europe. I'm a party animal whose lethal showgirl kick has been banned in Boston. Enjoy fast cars, sailing, music, skiing, rooms full of nice clothes.
Marie D. (1017), c/o P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

JOHN R. (MN) 7/86
Divorced hetero male, mid-50's, good health, active, businessman, well-travelled, strong traditionalist, cosmopolitan.
Interested in meeting, knowing highly feminine TS/TV for social contact, possible enduring relationship.
John R. (MN-0770)

Michelle M. (0954)

MICHELLE M. (S.W. OH) 5/86
Member: Paradise, Cross-Port, Tri Ess
Hetero married crossdresser, 5'9", 170, educated, friendly. Married 15 years to an "A" wife who accepts and helps. An original organizer of Paradise. Enjoys crossdressing, hi-heels, 'girl talk', and picture taking sessions. Needs help to enhance feminine voice. Interested in meeting other married crossdressers in SW Ohio.
Michelle M. (OH-0954)

ANGELA SHEEDY (W. NY) 5/86
MWM, 40, with supportive wife. Enjoys fly fishing, traveling, motorcycling.
"I'm thoroughly motivated and intellectually stimulated by crossdressing, and living out my fantasies as Angela. I'm hoping to lead the rest of my life as a happy person."
Angela S. (NY-0719)

Rhonda Smith (MA-0317)

RHONDA SMITH (MA & CA) 7/86
5/6", 130, single, EXOTIC.
Interests: Archery, atomics, lasers, professional photography, camping.
"I'm the only girl to have 3-D holographic portrait commissioned. Been to Hollywood and personally know most of the X-rated girls (Sulka, Nikko, etc.)."
Rhonda S. (MA-0317)

SUSAN BURTON (AZ) 8/86
MWM, hetero TV, age 36
Interests: Literature, classical music, art & photography, cross-cultural studies, human biology & psychology.
"My greatest loves are travel, visiting old friends, and making new ones, and would greatly enjoy meeting or corresponding with new friends in the TV/TS Community."
Susan Burton, P.O. Box 226, 3116 E. Shea Blvd., Phoenix, AZ 85028

Evelyn B. (KS-0400)

EVELYN BORDEN (KS) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess
Tall, attractive, passes well, warm and friendly. College educated professional who is an advanced crossdresser, TS oriented.
Interested in finding resources to help with furthering the femme self, helping others to reach resources in the Kansas City area.
Evelyn B. (KS-0400)

ROSALIND HART (NM) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess
Participant: 'Be All', WSG Ptown Outing
Married TV, 59, but appear younger. 5'6", 155, slightly graying brown hair. Relatively uninhibited under proper circumstances. Wife's acceptance ambivalent. Non-smoker.
Interests: Skills required to pass well. Endocrine, psychological, & genetic basis of transvestite behavior. Enjoys computers, science fiction, shopping, dining out, music and good conversation with like-minded persons.
Rosslind H. (NM-0768)

ROBIN R. (NH) 8/86
Member: Tri Ess
6'2", 180, 50, married to understanding wife (mbr Tiffany's Wives Support Group).
Interests: Wood working, good television, science, dining out, and walking.
"I will answer letters, and would like to hear from sisters in New Hampshire."
Robin R. (NH-0757)

DENISE ST. CLAIR (S. CA) 5/86
Hetero cross-dresser. Enjoys music, dancing, socializing with other TVs, TSs, etc. Would like to correspond with others, and with genetic women. I live with my girl friend who is very understanding.
Denise St. Clair, 6520 Selma Ave #1243, Los Angeles, CA 90028

ABBY MARIE GREENE (NH) 6/86
M-F TS, lifelong personality. Living as female, under doctor's care for all aspects of gender change. Interests are music, outdoor life and all feminine ways of life. Enjoy correspondence and will answer all reasonable letters.
Abby Marie Greene, P.O. Box 218, W. Franklin, NH 03235

DIANE SLOTE (N. NY) 5/86
MWM, 38, 6', 200. Enjoys music, camping, photography, history, & fashion.
"I'm interested in corresponding with men or women who will accept me as a woman. Due to family considerations am unable to socialize much."
Diane S. (NY-0990)

THERESA C. (MI) 6/86
MWM hetero. Enjoys skiing, boating, shopping, fashion, gender psychology, cosmetics, androgyny, all things feminine.
Would love to meet others, and correspondence with like-minded crossdressers and supportive genuine women.
Theresa C. (MI-1003)

JUDITH ANNE THOMPSON (SE MA) 6/86
Widowed WM crossdresser, 64, 175, intelligent, honest, retired. Good listener.
Likes nature photography, hiking, gardening, good music, living as 'Judy". "I would like contact with cross dressers in S.E. MA area for companionship, and like interests."
Judith T. (MA-0733)

BRENDA H. (E. MA) 5/86
MWM TV, 35, 5'9", 170, shy.
Enjoys dressing, shopping, movies, travel, slow dancing. "Due to circumstances, haven't been able to dress as often as I would like. I am now free to experience my desires. Would love to correspond with and possibly meet other TVs. could use advice and support."
Brenda H. (MA-0978)

JOAN BRIDGMAN (CAN) 8/86
Member: FACT Toronto
Participant: Tiffany's P-town Convention
M-F pre-op TS, 5'7", 180, early 40's.
"I seldom have time to answer correspondence. If you are in Toronto, please call me at 416-598-0433."
Joan M. Bridgman, 25 Wood St., Apt 305, Toronto, ONT CAN M4Y 2P9

Angela A. (VA-

ANGELA CAROL ASH (VA) 7/86
Member: Butternut Belles
Participant: Joyce Dewhurst's Poconos Outing, Fantasia Fair
Awards: 'Miss Best Dressed'
MWM TV, 47, 6', large build, blonde, blue yes, friendly and understanding of others.
Interests: I like dancing and attending parties. I am broad-minded and enjoy dressing, socializing with others & just being a girl. I like modeling feminine outfits. Would love to make new friends, particularly in the Southwest VA & East TN area.
Angela A. (VA-0736)

VICTORIA RICHARDS (NC) 7/86
Tall, a little over-weight, very outgoing, fun to be with.
Interests: Swimming, skiing, dancing, & I love to watch ice hockey. I also love lingerie, silk & satin. Would love to correspond with other members.
Victoria Richards, P.O. Box 36191, Greensboro, NC 27406-6191

Donna Marie H. (NY-0670)

DONNA MARIE H. (W. NY) 5/86
Member: Eon (co-founder), Tri Ess
Hetero male, 5'7", 160, brown hair, blue eyes. Married to a very supportive wife, have four understanding children.
Interests: Camping, model cars & R.R. modeling, perfection of my feminine image.
"Love working with & helping couples, and those new to crossdressing."
Donna H. (NY-0670)

SHANNON MICHAELS (W. NY) 8/86
Member: Butterfly
SWM-F post-op TS.
Interests: Travel, motorcycling, camping, art, photography, & butterflies.
"I'm interested in meeting TVs and other TSs. Try to dedicate much of my free time educating the community. It always gives me pleasure when someone is helped. I feel that since I no longer teach art it is no reason that I can't teach."
Shannon Michaels, P.O. Box 5071, Vestal, NY 13851

JUDY OSBORNE (WA) 6/86
Member: Emerald City (Treasurer), NWGA, Tri Ess
Interests: Going out dressed to kill, sailing, cooking scuba diving, parties, people.
"Can't participate much for now because of (hopefully) short-term problems with my teen-aged daughter."
Judy Osborne, P.O. Box 19394, Seattle, WA 98109

JENNIFER R. (FL) 7/86
SWM, early 30's, and looking for answers. Athletically inclined.
I enjoy scuba diving and tennis, and heading out into the Gulf by boat.
Jennifer R. (FL-0739)

KATHY S. (CT) 5/86
Married hetero, 27, crossdressing since early teens. "I have an understanding attractive wife who shares in my crossdressing. Would like to meet other TV couples."
Kathy S. (CT-0988)

SUSAN ELIZABETH Z. (W. NY) 5/86
Member: EON
SWM cross-dresser, enjoys fashion, gardening, wildlife, camping. "I enjoy the many new friends I have since joining EON."
Susan Z. (NY-0994)

RENE F. (TX) 5/86
Member: Tri Ess, CHIC
Married, mid 50's, tall, has been interested in crossdressing entire life. Out of the closet 7 years. Enjoys dining, dancing, fishing, amateur radio.
Rene F. (TX-0989)

SUE FANON (W. MA) 6/86
SWM TV, 30, 5'10", slim, loving, and sincere.
Interests: Dressing up & being feminine, makeup, travel. "I'm new, easy going, and would like to meet others that would like to help me pass in public."
Sue F. (MA-0983)

LYNDA D. (E. NY) 8/86
MWM TV, 33, shy.
Would like to learn more about dressing, make-up & mannerisms. Would like to correspond and also meet others who are sensible & discreet.
Lynda D. (NY-0775)

RICKY HUNT (PA) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess
MWM, 36, 6'2", 250.
Interests: Electronics, computers, cooking, hiking, sewing, science fiction, correspondence.
"I'm looking for correspondents who are interested in other subjects as well as TVism. My wife would like to hear from other wives."
Ricky Hunt, Box 263, Towanda, PA 18848

GENEVIEVE LARENT (VA) 7/86
5'11", 122, 23, brown hair and eyes, BA in Russian from the University of VA. A cross-dresser who is polite, friendly and considerate of other people's rights.

SHARON P. (S.E. MA) 5/86
5'9", 175, shy, blue eyes, and very open. Enjoys anything soft and silky. "I love to find the real woman in me, and would like to hear from other bi TVs or TSs for support and friendship."
Sharon P. (MA-0592)

Roberta L. (DC-0972)

ROBERTA L. (WA D.C.) 6/86
Member: Baltimore/D.C. Alliance
BSM, 6'2", 200, 34.
Interests: biking, top 40 music, fashion, going out, dancing.
"I welcome all correspondence. I dedicate much of my free time to gathering helpful information for crossdressers."
R. Lewis, P.O. Box 50724, Washington, D.C. 20004-0724

BETH B. (W. PA) 7/86
Member: TransPitt
6', thin build, likes to dress dressy, and be with people of good personality.
Interests: Dancing, shipping, eating out. Interested in meeting people in south-western Penn., and Tri-State area (W.VA, OH, and MD).
Beth B. (PA-1031)

Patti F. (MN-0735)

Angela G. (1075)

PATTI F. (MN) 6/85

Member: GGA, Tri Ess

Participant: Dream '78

38, 5'10", 175, college grad.

Interests: Taking modeling classes, garage sales, attending fashion shows. Also enjoys being a 'French maid'.

"My goal is to meet other TVs and become active in our new TV club in Minneapolis-St Paul area."

Pete Fail, Box 65221, St Paul, MN 55165

SUSAN B. (MD) 7/86

MWM hetero TV, 28, just coming out. Very supportive wife.

We would like to make contact with a support group for married couples or individual couples in the TV Community for exchanges of ideas, support, and correspondence. Please be sincere.

Susan B. (MD-0966)

JAIME R. (RI) 7/86

Pre-op TS, 5'9", 148, brown eyes & hair, friendly, helpful.

Enjoys rock & roll, country music, and gardening. Wants to make friends, and meet other people with the ssme interests, who want to enjoy life.

Jaime R. (RI-0300)

JENNY W. (NJ) 7/86

Life-long TV, only semi-active lately. SWM, 30, 5'8", dark brown hair and eyes. Occasionally passable.

Interests: Most kinds of music except hard rock (especially 60's, R. Strauss, bluegrass). Also, old movies.

"I enjoy helping others. I am interested in hearing from any crossdressers who would care to write, but am especially interested in hearing from any crossdressers who are also recovering alcoholics like myself. Your anonymity assured."

Jenny W. (NJ-0519)

VALERIE PARKER (MA) 8/86

Member: Tiffany

Participant: Fantasia Fair

Married hetero TV, 41, 6', 140. Androgynous, intelligent, and intense. Non-conformist.

Interests: Creating laser light shows, boating, night-life. Not interested in competitive sports or games.

"I'm totally open about my cross-dressing. I've been to work dressed many times. I'd like to meet or correspond with other cutting-edge cross-dressers."

Valerie Parker, P.O. Box 2217, Peabody, MA 01960

ANGELA GARDNER (E. PA) 8/86

Member: Phi Chapter

Participant: Joyce Dewhurst Poconos W/E

Angela is 5'11", 35, with dark hair and brown eyes. She enjoys music, film, shopping, mystery & science fiction, and fashion from new-wave to conservative. She loves dining out, dancing, and having a good time.

Angela Gardner, P.O. Box 866, Havertown, PA 19083

JOANNE R. (L.I. NY) 5/86

"I'm 35, 5'9", and a gender troubled novice cross-dresser. I enjoy shopping, baseball, rock & roll, and am interested in making friends. I can be a lot of fun, but I need a push."

Joanne R. (NY-1004)

SANDRA SCOTT (MA) 7/86

Member: Tiffany

Participant: Tiffany Spring Convention

SWM TV, brown eyes & hair, trim figure.

Enjoys skiing, bowling, crafts, and dancing. Wishes to meet people, make new friends, and learn to be as much a lady as possible.

Sandra S. (MA-0544)

Joycie Mc. (CA-1073)

JOYCIE McGINN (S. CA) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess, Shangri La
Participant: Shangri La, DREAM
Awards: 'Miss Dream' 1st runner-up, 'Miss Congeniality'
Interests: Photo sessions, sports, sports cars, classics, shopping with TVs & TSs. Also, gardening, re-decorating apts., auto mechanics.
"Would love to hear from TVs & TSs, but must send photo. All letters will be answered ASAP. Will show girls around S. CA area."
Joycie McGinn, 9847 Flora vista Sp. 31, Bellflower, CA 90706

JANICE HILARY RUPARD (TX) 6/86
Member: Bolton & Park
MWM, lifelong CD, 5'9", late 50's. Sensitive, caring, with a gentle nature and a bit shy. Retired.
"I so enjoy doing things feminine! And now, working with Bolton & Park, I have met some really neat ladies in person, as well as the lovely folks I correspond with. I'm a bit slow to answer, but will answer all. Your photo will be enjoyed."
Jan Rupard, P.O. Box 63112, Wetmore, TX 78163

DORIS MORROW (KS) 7/86
Member: Tri Ess
MWM, 48, just coming out of the closet. Size 22 1/2, cannot pass.
Would like to correspond with other TVs, especially in Kansas. I live in Wichita.
Doris M. (KS-0962)

JENNIFER S. (AZ) 7/86
DWM, 6', 170, 44, warm, sharing, caring.
Enjoys good food, music, cuddling, and dressing to the max. Good wardrobe - extensive lingerie, heels, wigs, makeup, etc. Would like to meet other TVs or TSs.
Jennifer S. (AZ-1056)

CHRISTINA MARIE L. (NH) 6/86
SWM crossdresser, 32, interested in harmony with nature.
"I like outdoor activities such as gardening, canoeing, fishing, skiing, hunting, skating, hiking. Would like to meet other crossdressers with similar interests."
Christina L. (NH-0709)

LONNA JOAN CARR (E. NY) 6/86
Member: Tri Ess
Mature, 50-ish, attractive, very good femme figure, successful RE broker.
Interests: Music, theatre, jogging, shopping, dancing, socializing as a girl. "Let's get to know each other."
Ms Lonna Joan Carr, Box 763, Jericho, NY 11763

THERESA W. (E. NY) 7/86
Member: NYC-GA
Hetero TV, 37, married with children.
Interests: Shopping, & dressing up. Would like to meet people with same interests because wife is just tolerable of me.
Theresa W. (NY-1046)

SANDRA F. (E. NY) 7/86
Female (was unhappy TS until recently), 5'10", 65, blonde, brown eyes.
"I'm trying to organize Metropolitan NY Gender Identity Center (similar to Denver) with professional advisors. Would appreciate help from residents of NYC & L.I. Particularly want to get support groups started for parents, children, and spouses of TSs and cross-dressers."
Sandra F., P.O. Box 7301-A, Hicksville, NY 11802

MICHELLE N. (CT) 5/86
WM bi TV, 37. Would like to meet others in CT area. Would like to go shopping with other girl friends.
Michelle N. (CT-0948)

KAREN JANE M. (NH) 7/86
DWM hetero TV, 44, 6'1", size 16, honest, caring.
Interests: Music, reading, cooking, travel, motor cycles. Looking for honest, caring and helpful individuals, TVs or females.
Karen M. (NH-0689)

JOAN H. (CT) 7/86
SM, 5'8", 170, 64, brown hair, blue-grey eyes, somewhat introverted but friendly & honest. Enjoys bicycling, hiking, and has many varied interests.
Joan H. (CT-1057)

CHERYL McBRIDE (N. NY) 7/86
Member: Tiffany, TV Entertainers
Participant: Tiffany's Spring Convention, Fantasia Fair
35, 5'7", 145, gregarious, helpful.
Interests: X-C skiing, year-round camping, cycling, dancing, interesting people, lively parties, photography.
"I'm interested in helping others in our culture. sincerely am fascinated by people. Intend to make my crossdressing part of my life, and not my life's central focus."
Cheryl M. (NY-0350)

JANE MURPHY (W. NY) 6/86
Member: Butterfly
SWM TV, 23, 6'11".
Interests: Camping, sports, writing, computers, and the feminine way.
"I'm out of the closet to stay and am looking to correspond with all. It's great to be young and able to enjoy today's fashions. I travel to some of the major cities, maybe we can get together for a night on the town!"
Jane Murphy, c/o P.O. Box 35, Endicott, NY 13760

LINDA LYNETTE DeMELLO (MA) 7/86
SWM pre-op TS, 5'6", 160, 35, brown hair, blue eyes, male appearance, female character.
"I need friends to help me cope with rejection, and to understand me. I need personal hands-on help with learning how to achieve & project a feminine image. Please be sincere."
Linda D. (MA-1058)

ROBERTA LEE (ND) 9/86
Member: Tri Ess
Happily married TV, 5'8", 145, 43, has good sense of humor.
Interests: Electronics, books, creative writing, camping, fishing, shopping.
"I like to write and correspond with upbeat fun loving TVs."
Roberta L. (ND-1071)

WINNIE BRANT (N. NY) 5/86
Member: Tiffany, Tri-Ess, EON
Participant: Fantasia Fair, DREAM, Tiffany's Convention
Awards: Miss Fantasia Fair
Hetero TV, 53, 6'2", a lady. Has many interests, scientific and culturally oriented. Loves to travel.
Mr W. Brant, Box 741, Schenectady, NY 12301

TINA BROWNING (E. PA) 9/86
Writer and organizer of TV/TS educational & social activities.
Interests: History of "androgyny" and the lives of all those in our 'family'.
"I look forward to exchanging correspondence, fantasy/fiction and true experiences of our lives along & across the gender border."
Tina B. (PA-1064)

CYNTHIA KATHERYN JACOBS (AR) 9/86
SWM, 5'10", 170. Shy, quiet person looking for help in improving my femininity. would love to meet others while dressed. Enjoys sports, movies, and video games. Looking for someone who could teach me to dance, cook and sew. I enjoy being photographed as a woman. Hoping to find understanding people within a 5-hour drive of Northeast Arkansas.
Cynthia J. (AR-1063)

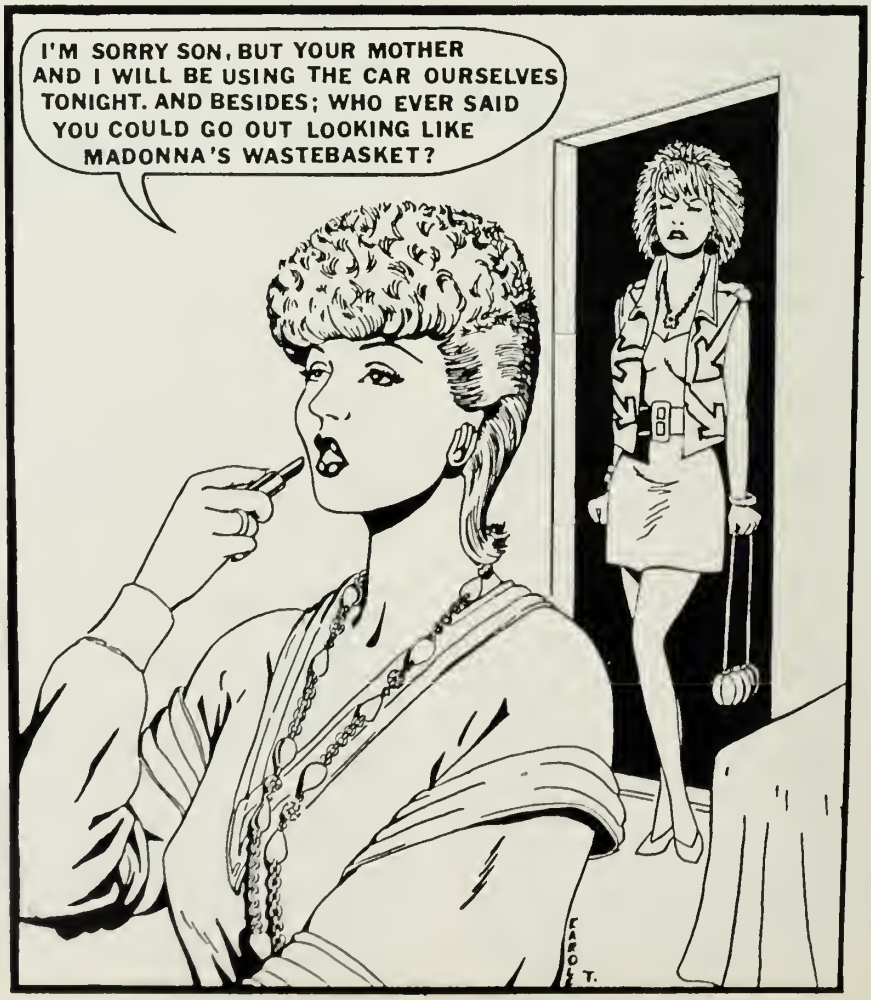
WENDI P. (AZ) 8/86
DWM TV, 5'8", 145, 38, brown hair & eyes, working at being passable.
"I'm a novice, but learning to truly enjoy my fem side. I thoroughly enjoy dressing, silky clothes, travel, cooking, rock music and Arizona. I Want to meet other TVs, TSs, and interested females in the Southwest. My fascination with cross-dressing is only equaled by my want to enjoy life to the fullest in the role of my choice. If you are passable and in the Phoenix area, let's meet."
Wendi P. (AZ-1072)

ELLIE KAY (MA) 8/86
DWM, 5'6", 53, quiet and lives alone. Pleasant personality.
Interests: Model railroading, country music, and cross-dressing. Enjoys meeting people, and long rides & walks.
"I'm new to cross-dressing, and really can use all the help I can get. Would love to meet and correspond with others of same interests."
Ellie K. (MA-1076)

KATE MORRISEN (L.I. NY) 9/86
Member: Butterfly
MWM hetero TV, 6'1", 40, attractive when dressed, but still in the closet.
Interests: Writing, music, computers, biking and photography. Loves collecting and wearing all feminine clothing, especially lingerie.
"I want to hear from all other TVs, TSs, and women. Let's share our ideas bout dressing up as well as exchanging our feminine fantasies."
Kate Morrisen, P.O. Box 20, jericho, NY 11753

ROBIN N. (S. CA) 8/86
Member: Tri Ess
SWM, 29, wishing to meet with or correspond with other TVs/TSs who enjoy their feminine self.
Interested in travelling, photography, history, science fiction, writing, music and being feminine.
"Will answer all who write. Will send photo to those who do likewise. Discretion a must."
Robin N. (CA-1068)

JOANNA G. (NJ) 7/86
Member: Tiffany
Participant: Tiffany Spring Convention, Fantasia Fair
DWM, young 60's, 6', 185, healthy, non-smoker.
Interests: Snorkeling, airplanes, flying, fashions, sewing, dining out, good music.
"Have feminine nature, like real values and friendships. Enjoy TV/TS social scene, am considerate and respectful. Especially love 'girl talk' and correspondence."
Joanna G. (NJ-0520)



TONI H. (OH) 9/86
Single, 6'1", 145, 58.
Interests: Tournament golf, real estate, dressing. Wants to meet TV and wife for dinners & conversation. If you have a private place near Dublin OH, you have a new friend.
Toni H. (OH-1066)

VICKI HILL (NJ) 8/86
Hetero, married, 5'9", 155, 44, understanding wife.
Enjoys fiction writing. Has just begun to make contacts, wants to exchange photos, and meet people.
Vicki Hill, P.O. Box 39, Belleville, NJ 07109

JESSICA MERTEN (S. CA) 9/86
Member: ETVC, Neutral Corner, Shangri-La.
Pretty, very passable, 46 y/o TS, forced by circumstances to stay pre-op for the forseeable future.
Especially like to hear from anyone in Southern California in similar situation.
Jessica Merten, P.O. Box 9475, Palm Springs, CA 92263

RANDI (MI) 9/86
Member: Crossroads
M/m, 5'11", 150, late 30's, dark hair & brown eyes, educated professional.
Interests: Travel, outdoors activities, music & golf.
"I like to talk and meet with others, attractive and experienced in the feminine persuasions, TV and TS."
Randi (MI-1074)

JACKIE S. (IN) 9/86
Member: CrossPort, Windy City
TV, 5'9", 150, brown eyes & hair, impaired hearing, quiet, lonesome, and non-smoker.
Interests: Bowling, golf, reading, and feminine clothing, especially leotards, fishnet hose, cocktail dresses, etc. Also enjoys nights out in 'Cincy' and 'Indy'.
"Want to meet other TVs & TSs, and in need of a male escort. Can travel on weekends in Midwest and South. Please write."
Jackie S. (IN-1065)

JENNIFER J. (S. CA) 7/86
MWM, 5'10", 190, 34, blue eyes.
Interests: Fashion magazines, lingerie, bowling, camping.
"Hope to meet others who enjoy dressing and be friends. Will answer all."
Jennifer Jessop, 12226 Victory blvd, Suite 281, No. Hollywood, CA 91606

NANCY MARIE T. (NH) 9/86
MWM, 5'9", 155, 31, married to understanding accepting woman.
Enjoys shopping trips, dressing-up and being feminine, videos, reading. Would like to discreetly exchange cross-dressing experiences with other married TVs. Correspondence or meetings possible.
Nancy T. (NH-1062)

DIANE I. (AZ) 9/86
Member: Alpha Zeta (President)
Interested in women's fashions, music, cooking, writing, classic movies, travel. Enjoys shopping, going to plays and musicals, and out to dinner as a girl. Has spoken to college classes on cross-dressing.
Diane I. (AZ-1070)

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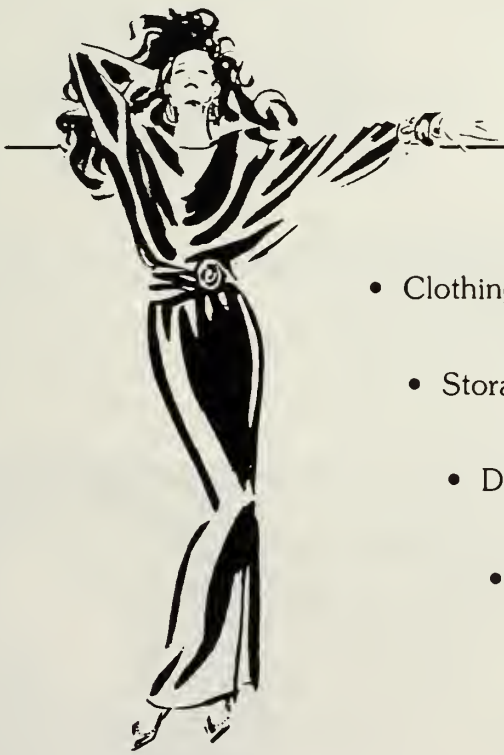

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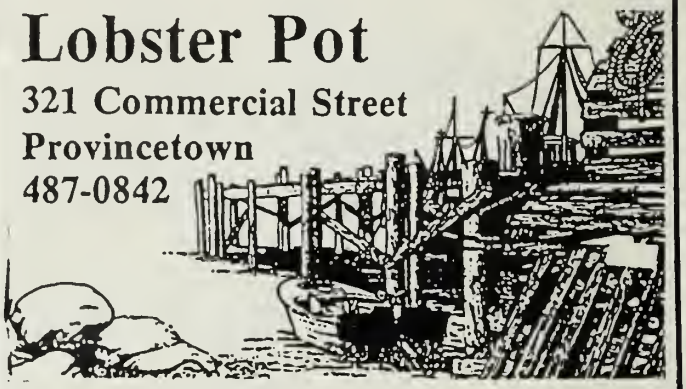

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The International Foundation for Gender Education
cordially invites you to its first international convention:

"COMING TOGETHER - WORKING TOGETHER"

MARCH 4 - MARCH 9, 1987

at the elegant Ramada O'Hare Hotel Chicago, Illinois

The Convention is sponsored by the International Foundation for Gender Education on behalf of the entire Transvestite/Transsexual Community The Convention is planned and coordinated by representatives from Androgyny Unlimited, the Butterfly Group, Chi Chapter, Chi Delta Mu, the City of Lakes Crossdressers Club, Cross-Port, Crossroads Chapter, Delta Chi, the Educational TV Channel, the Emerald City Club, Eon, the Federation of American and Canadian Transsexuals, the Gender Identity Clinic, J2CP Information Services, Metamorphosis Medical Research Foundation, the Northwest Gender Alliance, the Paradise Club, the Outreach Institute, People Systems Potential, Phi Chapter, Shangri La, the Society for the Second Self, the Tiffany Club, TransCend Counseling, TransPitt, Windy City Gender Alliance

PURPOSE:

To have a Convention that is of actual and effective service to the Transvestite/Transsexual Community, and those affected by that Community. It is also intended to provide an educational resource to those persons who may be interested in issues related to Gender Expression and Identity.

OBJECTIVES:

To promote self-validation and self-respect, to develop a sense of togetherness and working together to benefit all, and provide an in-depth educational opportunity for all.

We will achieve our purposes and our objectives by providing a comprehensive program of workshops, seminars, moderated special topic raps, social activities, etc. There will be programs for **crossdressers, transsexually inclined persons, wives & significant others, helping professionals (therapists, educators, etc.), and those members of the general public who wish to learn.**

"We have had our private social outings and our independently sponsored 'growth experiences' which have been beneficial to individuals and individual organizations, but — have failed to pull us together as a Community. We have coat-tailed on other conventions (AASECT/SSSS, HBGDA, etc.) which may have had some benefit to someone, but — not to us. It is time we, as a Community, had our own convention.

We need the tools to get our collective act together. Our own convention is such a tool. We need a chance to feel dignity and self-respect, and a chance to say 'We are who and what we are, and that's OK!' Our own convention will give us that opportunity. We need to know how to help each other, and most of all know how to help those who need us. No one is going to teach us how to do that. No one knows how. Our own Convention will give us the opportunity to learn how.

If the members of our Community and those people important to us are to learn and receive the help they need then WE must provide that help. If we don't, no one else is going to do it for us. We need a good convention, a real convention, a convention by us - for us. Now we will have it.

If you are interested in helping or learning, I look forward to seeing you in Chicago."

Merissa Sherill Lynn, *Director*

'COMING TOGETHER', c/o I.F.G.E., P.O. BOX 19, WAYLAND, MA 01778 (617) 358-2305

CODE OF CONDUCT:

It is expected that all persons attending the 'Coming Together' Convention will dress tastefully (whether that be in masculine or feminine attire), will exercise good manners and common sense at all times, and will protect the security and peace of mind of all

It is our intention to project an image of dignity and self-respect, and we expect all participants and guests to act accordingly.

ACCOMMODATIONS:

The Ramada O'Hare is a beautiful 1st class hotel. The hotel staff is fully aware of the nature of our convention, and is willing to work with us and support us in any way they can. The Ramada has gone out of its way to help us feel welcome, and we are going to go out of our way to preserve that trust.

PROGRAMS:

(Programs are still in the planning stages at this time, so the agenda and programs are tentative, subject to expansion and change.)

AGENDA:

WEDNESDAY, 3/4: Early-bird registration.

THURSDAY, 3/5: A day of enjoying Chicago for those who registered early. Regular registration. Evening orientation & reception. Late evening social program.

FRIDAY, 3/6: Continental breakfast. Morning & afternoon workshops & seminars. Lunch with keynote speaker. Evening buffet & show.

SATURDAY, 3/7: Continental breakfast. Morning & afternoon workshops & seminars. Lunch with keynote speaker. Evening formal banquet & ball (honoring the life-time contribution of a member of our community).

SUNDAY, 3/8: Morning workshops. Brunch followed by a wind-down party. Departure. Steering Committee Meeting.

MONDAY, 3/9: Late-bird departure.

A FEW PLANNED WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS:

Wives and Significant others (on-going)

Educational Workshop for Novices (on-going)

Self-Validation (developing self power and responsibility)

Peer Counseling (how to help others)

Transsexualism: Fact and Fantasy

How To Start A Club Or Support Group

Androgyny (The integration of the Masculine & Feminine Selves)

Public Relations (how to work with the public, the media, and health professionals)

The Tyranny of Gender (an examination of being trapped in pre-conceived gender roles)

Being/Becoming a Man/Woman (learning attitudes, developmental history, feelings, etc. of the gender of choice)

Networking (how the various organizations & services can better work together) (on-going)

The Novice Therapist (dealing with therapists with no experience in gender related issues)

In addition to the above named seminars and workshops:

We will have keynote speakers for the luncheons and dinners.

We have a committee to coordinate social activities (parties, receptions, entertainment, etc.)

We have a committee to coordinate outside activities (nights on the town, guided tours, places to go, things to do while in Chicago, etc.)

We will have a reception room with informational literature, a reading library, a video marathon, and informed hosts & hostesses to rap with anyone who wishes to talk with them.

We will have small conference rooms set aside for impromptu meetings, unscheduled raps, etc.

There will be vendors available to help with wardrobe, make-up, counselling, etc.

And more!

HOTEL REGISTRATION FEES: $50.00 per person per night shared occupancy $80.00 per person per night single occupancy $90.00 M/F couple per night (NO DISCOUNTS)

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEES:

FULL CONVENTION: $150.00 per person $225.00 per M/F couple

PER DIEM PER PERSON: $35.00 Thursday $75.00 Friday $75.00 Saturday $50.00 Sunday

(20% DISCOUNT IF PAID IN FULL BY OCTOBER 6, 1986, 10% DISCOUNT IF PAID IN FULL BY JANUARY 5, 1987)

DEPOSITS: A minimum $50.00 deposit is required. To guarantee the room of your choice and registration in your preferred programs we must have your payment in full prior to February 15, 1987.

REFUNDS: Total refunds can be given prior to January 15, 1987 and 50% refunds prior to February 15. No refunds can be given after February 15.

PAYMENTS: All checks and money orders must be payable in U.S. funds. No personal checks can be accepted after February 15. Make checks and money orders payable to: **I.F.G.E.**
Visa and MasterCard are accepted (+5% service charge). Send your **Name, Address, Account Number, Expiration Date** and **Total Amount** to: I.F.G.E., P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778

REGISTRATION: We need your name (legal or adopted). (Address and phone number are preferred, but optional.) We need to know what requirements (if any) you may have (non-smoking roommate, etc.), and when you plan to arrive and depart.

QUESTIONS: If you have any problems or questions, write or call MERISSA SHERRILL LYNN, Director, P.O. Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 (617) 358-2305

TAPESTRY SUBSCRIPTION FORM

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The TAPESTRY supports all legitimate non-profit organizations serving the CD/TS/AN Community. $10.00 of each subscription will be returned to the organization of the Subscriber's choice.

Please name your preferred organization: _____

A subscription to the TAPESTRY entitles you to:

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Make checks and money orders payable in U.S. Funds to 'the TAPESTRY'. Send this form completed and your check or money order to: THE TAPESTRY, PO Box 19, Wayland, MA 01778 U.S.A.

PERSONAL LISTING:

If you do not want to place your address in the 'Tapestry', preferring to have your mail forwarded to you, please write 'C/O TAPESTRY' at the end of your listing.

No sexually oriented wording or photos will be accepted.

You may withdraw or change your listing at any time.

Your listing should include a) any TV/TS Club affiliations, b) any major TV/TS events in which you have participated, c) any awards you may have won, d) a personal description, e) your interests and hobbies, f) a brief personal statement as to what you hope to achieve with your personal listing.

Adopted Name: _____ Affiliations, Events, Awards: _____

_____

Interests: _____

_____ Comments: _____

_____

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Mailing Name & Address: _____

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THE TRINITY OF BEING:
OF BEING MASCULINE,
OF BEING FEMININE,
OF BEING ONE
WITH YOURSELF AND NATURE!

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